GRAPEVINE™
VISITACION·VALLEY

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Summer Jam 2 at Herz Playground

More than 350 local residents attended the Visitacion Valley Violence Prevention Collaborative's Community Summer Jam 2 on June 4 at Hertz Playground. Through interactive activities, sporting events and music, the event celebrated peaceful coexistence in the neighborhood.

Gala VVCC Fundraising Event in July

Visitacion Valley Community Center, Inc., will be hosting the first major fundraiser in its 87-year history July 13 at the Nikko San Francisco.

The first annual Florence Friedman Awards Gala, named for the center's founder, will honor Mayor Gavin Newsom for addressing issues of violence at the Sunnydale Housing Development and in the general southeast sector of the City.

MacFarlane Partners, LLC, a San Francisco-based real estate and investment firm, is presenting the event, which is also being sponsored by a number of other corporations.

Victor MacFarlane, managing partner of the principle sponsor, is gala chair, and District Attorney Kamala Harris is the honorary chair.

Sophie Maxwell, representing District 10 on the Board of Supervisors, will be among the guests and the event will be emcee'd by Jose Cisneros, San Francisco treasurer.

The community center has been providing a comprehensive range of services for residents from infants to elderly since Ms. Friedman established it in 1918. Last year more than 5,000 residents were directly served by its programs, including Children's Programs, the Family and Community Services Center at 161 Leland Avenue, the Beacon Center for Youth at the Visitacion Valley Middle School, the Violence Prevention Collaborative, Youth Employment Programs, the Seniors Center, ESL and citizenship classes and this newspaper. Nearly 1,000 residents monthly benefit from the free food distribution program the center operates in partnership with the Food Bank.

About 93 per cent of the center's $4.2 million budget is supported by federal, state and city grants. However, most grants are tightly restricted and the center's governing board of directors – all volunteers – called last year for more aggressive efforts in raising badly needed operating expenses.

Early this year the board singled out Mayor Newsom for his attention to spiraling rates of homicide and other violence in the Valley. The Mayor's Office of Criminal Justice has two grants identifying the Valley as a priority area. In addition, the Police Department and Hopusing Authority Community Policing Partnership has dedicated a team of officers to the Sunnydale Housing Development, resulting in a significant impact on crime and improving police relations with the residents.

James Dierke, principal of Visitacion Valley Middle School, said the mayor was a worthy recipient of the first Friedman award.

"Gavin Newsom has walked the neighborhood and seen that city services reach the people they are supposed to serve," Dierke said. "He has held numerous meetings in the Valley to address the violence issues, improve police presence and help stop the violence. When we had a very serious incident at our school in November, 2004 — a man came into the school and robbed and threatened two of our teachers — Mayor Newsom visited the school, students in class and promised to do something to help the school. He offered a $25,000 reward ... and several weeks later an arrest was made. His support did not end there. With his support, security lighting has been repaired to help make our school safer for people using the Beacon at night."

Information about gala reservations or donations is available through the community center's development department: (415) 330-1784 or r_olive@sbcglobal.net

Sweatshop-Free Ordinance Goes to Board

San Francisco introduced what would be considered to be the strongest anti-sweatshop legislation in the country on Jan. 27 in a press conference at City Hall.

San Francisco sweat-free legislation includes a sweat-free code of conduct to be signed by all city contractors, subcontractors and vendors.

If passed by the Board, the proposed ordinance will become the strongest sweatshop-free legislation and a model that can be adopted by cities throughout the country.

"Sweatshop labor practices- including use of forced and child labor are antithetical to the values of our city and county," said Mayor Gavin Newsom. "This landmark ordinance takes a strong stand against such labor practices and will place San Francisco at the forefront in ensuring that products purchased by the city are made in safe, humane, and fair workplaces."

New Fuel Price Finder Finds Cheapest Gas

AAA of Northern California has launched a new service that will help consumers find the least expensive fuel, no matter where they are driving in the United States.

The AAA Fuel Price Finder can be found online at www.aaa.com/gasprices. The data is derived from more than 85,000 individual stations throughout the United States, the same information AAA uses to track national, state and local gasoline price trends.

Here's how it works: Users enter a zip code or a city and state, then select a three-, five- or 10-mile radius for the site to search. The results are provided in a map of the area with stations indicated by fuel pumps, as well as a list of the stations with their fuel prices, street address and availability of diesel fuel.

By clicking on one of the listed gas stations, users can see the station plotted on the map. Different tools allow users to zoom in or out on the map to include more stations or isolate a single station.

Unlike fuel price sites that depend on motorists randomly entering prices they may have seen or paid at various places, AAA's site uses a steady stream of reliable data.

In addition to finding the least expensive fuel, www.aaa.com/gasprices provides links to other useful AAA services.

The AAA Fuel Cost Calculator allows users to plan ahead for fuel costs on vacation. After entering an origin and a destination, as well as the type of vehicle they plan to drive, the AAA Fuel Cost Calculator will tell users how much they should plan to spend on gas for the trip.

Supervisors Approve Legislation for Visitacion Valley and Schlage Lock

Important legislation sponsored by Supervisor Sophie Maxwell involving Visitacion Valley and the former Schlage Lock site was approved at a regular June 7 meeting of the Board of Supervisors. Included are:

*A resolution to endorse the Strategic Concept Plan for Schlage Lock and its vicinity, developed with the Visitacion Valley neighborhood through a community planning process, and to urge the Planning Department to include the plan in its environmental review of projects in the area.

*A resolution designating a Visitacion Valley Survey Area for Schlage Lock and portions of Leland Avenue and Bayshore Boulevard. The designation of a Survey Area directs the Redevelopment Agency to perform the necessary studies to determine if the area is appropriate to become a Redevelopment Area, an act of the Board of Supervisors. Should the area become a Redevelopment Area, it would provide the City with tools – such as tax increment financing, land acquisition, and environmental cleanup – to implement the Strategic Concept Plan.

Two other pieces of legislation sponsored by Supervisor Maxwell were also approved:

*An ordinance to establish a comprehensive environmentally preferable city-purchasing program for the City's purchases of commodities. By exercising economic power, the City will help generate regional demand for healthy products, a healthy way of doing business, product innovation and business development and competition.

*A resolution urging the Redevelopment Agency of the City and County of San Francisco to establish a housing policy setting a clear intent to use more than 50 percent of total tax increments funds for low and moderate income housing and to include a statement of such intent in all future redevelopment plans submitted to the Board of Supervisors for its approval.

Environmental Bill Signed into Law

Mayor Gavin Newsom joined by Supervisor Sophie Maxwell and other local environmental leaders, signed innovative environmental legislation into law on June 17 to ensure the use of safe and health conscious products in San Francisco.

This legislation, called the *Precautionary Purchasing Ordinance*, phases out the use of toxic products by city government including certain types of paint, cleaning solutions and plant fertilizers. The law will decrease public health risks associated with these products by utilizing safer alternatives. San Francisco is the first city in the country to adopt an ordinance of this kind.

"The need to move to safer alternatives from toxic products is essential if we are committed to having a healthy environment," said Mayor Newsom.

The Precautionary Purchasing Ordinance combats the increased use of toxic chemicals that have been attributed to rising asthma and cancer rates, and the increased occurrences of learning disabilities and autism.

The ordinance will result in the alternative use of safer janitorial products in city buildings and on streets. It will phase out the use of toxic pesticides in parks and buildings, and will replace CCA-wood structures – which can release arsenic – in children's playgrounds.

"The city spends hundreds of millions of dollars each year buying goods and services," explained Supervisor Maxwell. "By exercising our economic power, San Francisco can encourage market development of new products which are healthier and more environmentally friendly."

Northern California Gas Prices Down from Record High

The cost of gasoline continues to decline according to a recent report by AAA of Northern California, which tracks fuel prices as a service to consumers.

The statewide average cost of a gallon of regular unleaded gasoline in California is now $2.36. That price is a decrease of 17 cents a gallon compared to the last AAA monthly report on May 17 and a 29-cent decline from the record high price of $2.65 set on April 16.

"The price has come down, but it's important to keep this in perspective," said Sean Comey, spokesman for AAA of Northern California. "It only seems like a bargain when you compare it to the record high. The price of gas is still at least 40 cents higher in most places than it was in January."

Production and supply at California gasoline refineries is good compared to averages over the last few years, according to the California Energy Commission (CEC). One explanation for the recent decline in consumer gas prices, according to the CEC, is that profit margins for companies that operate California refineries appear to be dropping.

There are, however, some developments in the energy markets that may tend to undermine the current downward trend for consumer gas prices.

The cost of crude oil, the raw material from which gas is made, has been rising in price recently and is now trading close to record high prices set two months ago. Every dollar per barrel decrease in the cost of crude oil usually corresponds to a matching change of 2.5 cents per gallon in the retail price of gas.

Fuel consumption also tends to increase in the summer as consumers drive more. Rising demand often boosts retail fuel prices.

The most expensive average gas price in Northern California is in Yreka, where regular unleaded costs $2.55 per gallon. The lowest price among California cities tracked by AAA is in Marysville, where gas costs an average of $2.19 per gallon. Throughout Northern California, the average price is $2.35. In the Bay Area, the average price is $2.36.

The nationwide average price is now $2.13. That price is 23 cents a gallon less than the statewide average in California. The least expensive gasoline is found in Corpus Christi, Texas and in Greenville, South Carolina. Both cities have an average price of $1.97.

The highest average price for gas in the United States in Wailuku, Hawaii, where a gallon of regular unleaded sells for $2.76.

"California's average price is dropping more rapidly than the national average," said Comey. "We're still paying more than people in most of the rest of the country, but it's not as bad as it was a month ago."

Learning the Basics of Neighborhood Safety

Little Hollywood resident Rick Graham (center) was congratulated by (l-r) Lt. Denis Newman and Inspector Greg Owyang upon completing the Neighborhood Emergency Response Team (NERT) program. NERT courses consist of six three-hour classes and cover: earthquake awareness, preparedness, and hazard mitigation; basic disaster skills; disaster medicine; light search and rescue; team organization and management; skills application and development. The next NERT course will be held at Golden Gate Park beginning July 6, Wednesdays from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. for six sessions at the County Fair Building, Ninth Avenue and Lincoln Way.

Grapevine Mailbox

Seniors Call for Better Muni Routes and Paratransit

Visitacion Valley is a thriving community of many ethnicities and nationalities, but what we all need is safe, walkable sidewalks, especially accessible bus routes for seniors, families with children, and people with disabilites living in the Valley.

This will help residents from various neighborhoods get to their nearest bus stop or make connections to the new Muni Third Street Light Rail.

With the help of *Senior Action Network* (SAN) of San Francisco, seniors living in the John King Community Center have been meeting together to try to obtain a paratransit system to transport them from the top of the hill (Sawyer Street) to the nearest Muni bus stop (Visitacion Avenue). The residents are hurting right now, because the paratransit system they had before and need is not available.

The residents at John King Community Center formed a senior group called *Seniors in Action*. They are determined to fight for their means of transportation and will not stop until they get a neighborhood shuttle. They have completed a survey conducted by Supervisor Sophie Maxwell's office.

Senior Action Network and *Seniors In Action* received a reply from Supervisor Maxwell's office indicating that her office was seeking funding from the Regional Transit Authority.

Seniors in Action and *Senior Action Network* have scheduled a Visitacion Valley Community Meeting for all residents of the Valley to discuss transportation and pedestrian safety issues faced by Valley residents, especially as the opening of the Third Street Light Rail approaches and the #15 Muni bus line is eliminated.

Seniors are also investigating the idea of a circulating bus shuttle system in Visitacion Valley that would connect key community housing sites with Leland Avenue, Bayshore Boulevard., the Third Street Light Rail, and Caltrain on one end, and the Balboa Bart Station and San Francisco City College on the other end.

The meeting will be held at the Visitacion Valley Park Clubhouse, 251 Leland Ave at Cora Street, on Thursday, July 28 from 2 to 4 p.m.

The following officials have been invited: Supervisor Sophie Maxwell (District 10); Frank Markowitz, DPT Director of Pedestrian Safety; Bond Yee, Director of DPT; Ed Lee, Director of DPW; Captain Paul Chignell from Ingleside Police Station; Mayor's Office of Neighborhood Services; and all community-based organizations in the Valley.

Senior Action Network and *Seniors in Action* invite all residents interested in good transportation to come and get active. Chinese and Spanish translation will be provided.

Lotchana "Chana" Sourivong
Pedestrian Safety/Transportation Organizer, Senior Action Network

Simple Summer Living

The Postal Service has compiled a list of the Top 10 Tips for Simple Summer Living that would work well as part of a lifestyle article this summer:

1. Moving? Change your address with the U.S. Postal Service on the internet at USPS.com or by the phone at 1-800-ASK-USPS and select the "change of address" option.

2. Plan hot household work such as washing clothes, cooking and vacuuming for the cooler morning and evening hours.

3. Hang a clothesline. You'll save money and your clothes will smell summertime-fresh.

4. Keep an ongoing list of must-see movies in your wallet to avoid wasting time making decisions in the video store.

5. Your freezer works best when it is full. Place covered plastic water-filled containers in your freezer for maximum efficiency.

6. Don't place lamps near your air conditioning thermostat. The heat will cause the air conditioner to run longer.

7. Last minute vacation prep: keep extra toiletries permanently in a resealable plastic bag that's always ready to travel.

8. Cut down on garden maintenance by spreading several layers of wet newspaper on open areas between plants, then covering them with two to three inches of your favorite mulch.

9. Make your own freezer pops with extra fruit juice. Just place in ice trays or plastic cups and put sticks in when the pops are nearly frozen.

10. Crack open the tops of windows. Heat rises and it will rise right out of the house through open window tops.

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Thanks to Community For Summer Jam 2

Dear Community Members:

Thank you very much for joining us at the Visitacion Valley Violence Prevention Collaborative's Community Summer Jam 2. You helped make it a tremendously fun, enriching and fabulous event for the whole community.

I also want to extend my sincere thanks to you for your enthusiastic participation in the Violence Prevention Collaborative. Your contributions thus far has been invaluable. I want to especially thank all those who helped organize the Community Summer Jam 2 event and those people who volunteered at the event. We owe special thanks to Renee Strong for hosting the event at Hertz Playground.

We are indebted to the Ingleside police department and the Mayor's Office on Criminal Justice for their role as well in planning and running the event. I would also like to acknowledge and thank for your generosity those of you who donated gift certificates, cash and prizes for the raffle we conducted.

Finally, I want to express my deeply felt gratitude to the many Collaborative members and Common Ground Forum members who co-sponsored the event and provided free community services to those who attended the event. The group collaboration was truly impressive. I am proud to announce that we had over 350 community members in attendance. And with your assistance in developing and preparing activities, sport events, music and foods that were both interactive and multicultural, we truly achieved our goal of having a Community Summer Jam 2 day that reflects our entire diverse community. All of your contributions helped make this an extremely successful and positive event for the Violence Prevention Collaborative and for the Visitacion Valley community.

Your participation with the Violence Prevention Collaborative is invaluable and greatly appreciated. I truly believe that it is only through effective partnerships that we can achieve our goal of a peaceful nonviolent community and I look forward to many more successful collaborations between our organizations in the near future.

Sincerely, Michael Bennett
Visitacion Valley Community Beacon
Violence Prevention Coordinator

An Old Cowboy's Advice

*Your fences need to be horse-high, pig-tight and bull-strong!

*Keep skunks and bankers and lawyers at a distance.

*Life is simpler when you plow around the stump.

*A bumble bee is considerably faster than a John Deere tractor.

*Words that soak into your ears are whispered, not yelled.

*Meanness don't jes' happen overnight.

*Forgive your enemies. It messes up their heads.

*Do not comer something that you know is meaner than you.

*It don't take a very big person to carry a grudge.

*You cannot unsay a cruel word.

*Every path has a few puddles.

*When you wallow with pigs, expect to get dirty.

*The best sermons are lived, not preached.

*Most of the stuff people worry about ain't never gonna happen anyway.

*Don't judge folks by their relatives.

*Remember that silence is sometimes the best answer.

*Live a good, honorable life. Then when you get older and think back, you'll enjoy it a second time.

*Don't interfere with somethin' that ain't botherin' you none.

*Timing has a lot to do with the outcome of a rain dance.

*If you find yourself in a hole, the first thing to do is stop diggin'.

*Sometimes you get, and sometimes you get got.

*The biggest troublemaker you'll probably ever have to deal with watches you from the mirror every mornin'.

*Always drink upstream from the herd.

*Good judgment comes from experience, and a lotta that comes from bad judgment.

*Lettin' the cat outta the bag is a whole lot easier than puttin' it back in.

*If you get to thinkin' you're a person of some influence, try orderin' somebody else's dog around.

*Live simply. Love generously. Care deeply. Speak kindly. Leave the rest to God.

Exhibit Will Feature Artistic Works Made from Garbage

A 17-foot Hummer made out of discarded Styrofoam, pieced together like a giant Lego set, is what the self-proclaimed "junk junkie", Andrew Junge, has been working on out at the San Francisco dump.

Art made from trash encourages us to be less wasteful – that is the aim of the SF Recycling & Disposal's Artist in Residence Program.

The life-sized Hummer and other work by Junge will be on display at a free exhibit and reception on Friday, July 22 from 5 to 9 p.m. and again on Saturday, July 23, from 1-5 p.m. at S.F. Recycling & Disposal's art studio at 503 Tunnel Ave. The open studio exhibit is the culmination of a 3-month residency.

The program was initiated in 1990 by San Francisco waste haulers to spur people to conserve natural resources and to instill in children and adults increased appreciation for the environment as well as art. More than 50 Bay Area artists have completed residencies.

Bay Area artists apply for three-month residencies. Those selected by a nine-member advisory board are handed the keys to a 2,200-square-foot art studio at the dump and given access to San Francisco's waste stream.

Art from the program is displayed in local schools and in public spaces. Many participating artists also make a permanent piece for the 3-acre sculpture garden on the hillside above the San Francisco Transfer Station, where 2,100 tons of landfill-bound trash is dumped, crushed by bulldozers and top-loaded into 18-wheelers five days a week.

Each day, trucks drop their hauls from San Francisco at the garbage and recycling complex at Tunnel Avenue and Beatty Road. To residents and businesses the truckloads amount to rubbish; to artists the daily deliveries are a tremendous source of art materials.

"For the first few weeks, I had a hard time actually creating anything simply because the scavenging process totally consumed me- the vast amount of rubbish produced by San Francisco contains so many shapes, textures and creative possibilities that it was initially quite overwhelming," reflects Junge.

The San Francisco Department of the Environment reports that more than 60 percent of waste is diverted from landfill, still the "garbage" brought in by collection trucks and private pickups includes ton after ton of unnecessary packaging and reusable material. The San Francisco Board of Supervisors has set a goal of recycling 75 percent of waste citywide by 2010.

"My show will be an examination of the debris of our consumerist society-what we value, what we throw away, what we waste, and how these are a direct reflection of who we are as a nation and how we treat our environment" says Junge. Andrew hopes to inspire San Francisco residents to think about resource conservation and maybe to recycle more and consume less.

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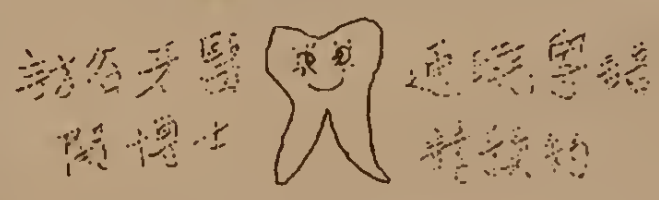

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Come to Church This Week

Summertime in San Francisco is a Walk in the Park

by Mayor Gavin Newsom

One of San Francisco's greatest assets is, and always has been, its young people — the next generation of doctors, professors, entrepreneurs, artists and, yes, even our future mayors. As parents, role models and stewards of this fine city, we have a responsibility to invest in our youths' futures and foster environments that are non-violent, healthy and positive.

With school out and summer in full swing, our focus is now on how we can best keep our young people off the streets, away from the television set and engaged in activities that are active, meaningful, memorable and, of course, fun.

Our city's Recreation and Park Department offers an array of quality, affordable activities and programs for kids of all ages. Some of these programs are traditional ones — trusty standards like the ones you and I may have participated in when we were youngsters. Others are new, innovative programs that cater to the interests of today's youth.

If you haven't done so in a while, I invite you to take a closer look at what Recreation and Parks has to offer this summer.

Day Camps

Our city's day camp programs continue to be some of the most popular programs in the city year after year, offering a variety of themes from sports and the arts to cooking and nature. Other specialty camps include a science camp run by the Randall Museum and Art in the Park camp at the Sharon Art Studio in Golden Gate Park.

Latchkey

Our city's after school Latchkey program provides full-time programming for school-age children during the summer. With more than 20 sites throughout the city, Latchkey is one of our more popular and affordable summer programs, serving hundreds of kids per year at just $20 per week. Activities include sports, arts and crafts, games, basic cooking lessons and weekly field trips to Bay Area amusement parks.

Aquatics

Learning to swim at one of San Francisco's nine public swimming pools is almost a prerequisite for city residents. Swimming lessons are available daily, Monday through Friday, or, if your kids just want to do some recreational swimming, they can float around to their hearts' content every day of the week. Take a dip in the city's most recently remodeled pools, King Pool in District 10 and North Beach Pool in District 3.

Project Insight

Project Insight's programs for the Deaf and visually impaired serve young people, ages 6-19, with recreation-based programs focusing on building physical, social, and living skills. Programs are conducted in American Sign Language but students of all language abilities are accepted into the programs.

Photography Center

Boasting one of the largest public darkrooms in the state, the city's Photography Center at the Harvey Milk Recreational Arts Building is a popular venue to learn the basics of photography or to hone your already talented shutterbug skills. The center provides an array of summer classes for both beginners and advanced photographers, including summer flower photography and black-and-white photography for teens.

Special Events

Recreation and Parks also has special summer days lined up for youths, including the Annual Play Day in Golden Gate Park, co-sponsored by the San Francisco Parks Trust, on July 7, featuring free games, merry-go-round rides, an obstacle course and live entertainment. The Stern Grove Festival also provides a fun and interactive series of arts education programs for children, ages 4-14, including music workshops on July 12 and August 16 and 17.

All of this, of course, is just a sampling of the wide spectrum of affordable and accessible activities Recreation and Parks has to offer this summer. Every year, the city also provides teens with a summer employment program, toddlers with daily music and movement classes, and families with camping opportunities at Camp Mather in the High Sierras.

For more information on any of the above programs mentioned here, the Recreation and Park Department's Public Information Office can be reached at (415) 831-2782, or, you can simply log on and visit http://parks.sfgov.org.

Enjoy your summers!

City Celebrates United Nations World Environmental Day

by House Democratic Leader Nancy Pelosi

In early June, San Francisco hosted the annual celebration of the United Nations World Environmental Day. Mayors from across the globe gathered in our city to sign the Urban Environmental Accords – a set of goals that aim to harness the power of the world's cities in addressing the world's environmental challenges.

It was fitting that this significant meeting was held in San Francisco for two reasons. The first is that Northern California is the cradle of America's environmental movement, a tradition that Mayor Newsom has continued through his commitment to making San Francisco a livable community and an environmental model for the world's cities.

The second reason is that it was in San Francisco 60 years ago this month that representatives of countries around the world gathered to found the United Nations – an institution that has helped countries address challenges that do not stop at boundaries.

It is my hope that just as the founding of the United Nations ushered in a new era of global cooperation on the world's shared challenges, future generations will celebrate the signing of the Urban Environmental Accords as a new chapter in which the world's cities took on a greater responsibility for stewardship of the world's environment.

With the majority of the world's people now living in cities, and 1 million people moving into cities each week, there is tremendous power and opportunity for progress. In places where national governments either cannot or will not act in a way that makes progress and protects our environment, cities must lead.

San Francisco has experienced an environmental struggle in the Bayview Hunter's Point community, where indiscriminate polluting has occurred through the years. As a result of the disproportionate burden of industrial pollution that this community has borne, Bayview Hunter's Point has higher than normal rates of childhood asthma and cancer. As we work together to complete the clean and safe transfer of the Hunters Point Shipyard to the city, my top priority will remain ensuring the protection of the health and environment of the Bayview Hunters Point community.

No one should have to live with more pollution because they are from a minority group, or because they are poor, especially if they are children. When we see an environmental threat to public health, we have a moral responsibility to eliminate it. It is a matter of fairness – breathing clean air and drinking clean water is a right, not a privilege.

Albert Einstein once said: "We can't solve problems by using the same kind of thinking we used when we created them." The United Nations Environmental Accords represent new thinking and new ideas that serve as a blueprint for a healthy future for our children, and I look forward to continuing to work with the mayor and people of San Francisco to ensure that change and progress begin here at home.

Police Community Meeting in July

Captain Paul Chignell of Ingleside Station will update the neighborhood on safety issues when Visitacion Valley holds its next monthly *Police Community Relations Meeting* at 7 p.m. on Thursday, July 14 at the Visitacion Valley Park Clubhouse, 251 Leland Ave at Cora Street.

Youth Basketball Team Needs Help Getting to Championship Toumament

The San Francisco Rebels will compete in the Amateur Athletic Union (AAU) National Basketball Championship in Orlando, Florida in August.

by Coach Deon Otis

Fourteen eighth grade youth from San Francisco – the San Francisco Rebels – need your help in supporting their goal of making it to the Amateur Athletic Union (AAU) National Basketball Championship in Orlando, Florida, this Aug. 1-8. This event hosts some of the best teams across America in a week-long competition in an effort to crown a national basketball champion team for the eighth grade. This year, the Rebels were the only San Francisco team to qualify for the nationals in Division 1.

For the past two-and-a-half years, I've been proud to volunteer as the Rebels' coach. During my first year coaching the team, in the sixth grade, the Rebels went to the AAU nationals in Virginia Beach, Virginia, where they went 3-3 in the national tournament. This year's team has a 40-7 record in the games they have played dating back to October when the AAU season started.

The team has played in tournaments in San Francisco, Sacramento, Reno and Portland, Oregon and they have played and beaten teams locally and teams from Los Angeles, Salt Lake City, Chicago, Portland, and Olympia, Washington. During the Easter break, the team reached the semi-finals in the prestigious Las Vegas Spring Classic, losing a thriller in the last seconds of the game.

The Rebels have come in first or second in most of the tournaments they have played in. With their strong showing over the last three years, the Rebel players give hope to strengthening San Francisco's prep basketball scene at the high school level over the next four years.

The Rebel players come from all over the San Francisco, including Bay View Hunters Point, Ingleside, Visitation Valley/Sunnydale, the Fillmore and the Avenues. They come from different races, religions and socio-economic backgrounds, but they are united toward a common goal of winning the 14 and under eighth grade national championship in Florida.

The cost to travel and stay for nine days in Orlando, Florida, runs close to $1,000 per child. The team has and will continue to hold fundraisers to help offset the cost, but we need your help to make going to Florida and winning the AAU basketball championships possible. Any contribution that you or your organization is willing to make can go a long way in making this opportunity of a lifetime come true.

If you wish to make a donation or need any further information, please do not to hesitate to call me, Coach Otis, at (415) 368-4407, or by mail at SF Rebels, Attn: Coach Otis, 1950 Page St., San Francisco, CA 94117. The young men of the Ernest Ingold Boys and Girls Club of San Francisco want to thank you in advance for any assistance you may be able to provide in making this dream come true.

Healthy Food at Bayview Farmers' Market

Fresh and healthy food is now available at the Bayview Hunters Point Farmers' Market, open every Saturday from 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. through Dec. 10 at Galvez and Third streets next to Bayview Plaza. The Farmers' Market is accessible by Muni lines 15, 19, 44 or 54.

Food stamps and WIC coupons are accepted at the market.

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Ten Ways to Save Energy During the Months of Summer

Energy consumption is on the rise, and the depletion of fossil fuels has become a growing problem in the United States. According to the United States Department of Energy, the U.S. uses almost a million dollars of electricity a minute, which is equivalent to approximately $525.6 billion each year. On a smaller scale, the average American family spends nearly $1,500 a year on utility bills alone, with 60 percent acquired from electricity bills.

Chances are your expenses may rise during the summer months, in part because children are home from school and many people relax the tight control they had over their utilities in the winter. The common phrase, "reduce, reuse, recycle" has become synonymous with saving energy and resources, and the sizzling months of summer will be more enjoyable and affordable if families consider these quick and easy energy saving ideas.

To help combat excessive summer expenses, Mike Sullivan, director of education for Take Charge America, provides the following ten quick and easy everyday tips for families to save energy during the summer:

*Vigilance is the key - Be extra mindful about turning off lights when leaving a room and closing windows and doors when the air conditioner is on. Simple preventative actions can have a big impact in the long run.

*Monitor outdoor water usage - Turn off automatic lawn timers during rainy weeks and consider watering during the early morning and late afternoon hours to prevent evaporation. Attach a spray nozzle to the garden hose when watering outdoor plants and use a broom to clean sidewalks and driveways, rather than spraying them down with a hose.

*Monitor indoor water usage - Take showers instead of baths and turn off the faucet when brushing your teeth and doing the dishes. If the dishwasher must be used, run full loads and adjust water-level settings to increase efficiency.

*Control computer settings - Computer usage in many homes increases during the summer, mainly because children are home from school. If the computer won't be in use for more than five minutes, set it to hibernate or sleep mode to save energy.

*Avoid cooking in the oven - If possible, consider cooking and reheating meals in the microwave or on an outside grill rather than in the oven. If the oven must be used, preheat it only when necessary and while in use, avoid opening the oven door unless absolutely necessary.

*Minimize appliance usage - Large indoor appliances such as dishwashers, washing machines, dryers and water heaters generate lots of heat. To maintain cooler temperatures indoors, use appliances sparingly and late in the evening.

*Wash full loads of laundry - Use cold water for both the wash and rinse cycles. Laundry can be air-dried and put into the dryer for the last five minutes to ensure softness and save energy. Over-drying clothes wastes energy and can accelerate wear and tear on your clothes.

*Enjoy the sunshine - Avoid using electric lights during the day; open a curtain or two to brighten a room and enjoy the natural light! Sunshine can also be an energy saver during pre-summer months when passive solar heat can warm a room effectively, rather than using electric or gas heat.

*Curb aggressive driving habits – Rapid acceleration, extreme braking and speeding are not only unsafe practices, they can increase gas mileage greatly. With the current cost of gas rising, look for ways to reduce gas consumption such as avoiding excessive idling and using cruise control whenever possible.

*Carpool – Commuting to work, school and home can be relatively inexpensive if sharing the drive with fellow colleagues and co-workers. Public transportation, such as a train or bus, can be extremely convenient and biking or walking are healthy choices that should be considered.

Composting and Gardening Classes in July

Classes are held at the Garden for the Environment, 7th Ave. at Lawton Street. Please call (415) 731.5627 to pre-register or for more information.

**Urban Composting*: Saturday, July 9, 10 a.m. to 12 noon. Turn your kitchen scraps into a rich soil amendment for your plants. Free!

**Gopher Proofing Your Garden Bed*: Saturday, July 16, 10 a.m. to 12 noon. Have you lost precious plants and veggies to that cute burrowing rodent living underground? Learn how to gopher-proof a garden bed and learn to keep gophers out of your garden without having to trap or kill these native inhabitants. $15. Pre-registration required.

**Planting your Winter Garden*: Saturday, July 23, 10 a.m. to 12 noon. It's the Bay Area – garden all year round! Learn how to have fresh greens and veggies even during the cold, wet winter along with what pests to expect and how to manage them. $15. Pre-registration required.

**Urban Foraging in San Francisco*: Saturday, July 30, 10 a.m. to 12 noon. Come learn about useful plants growing wild in your own backyard (or Golden Gate Park) and how they can be prepared for edible or medicinal purposes. There will be a plant identification walk, and you can taste some delicious recipes. $15. Pre-registration required.

Saturdays are Special at the Randall Museum

The Randall Museum offers drop-in, hands-on art and science workshops every Saturday from 1 to 4 p.m. at 199 Museum Way (off Roosevelt, above the Castro). Workshops are $3 per child; $5 for a parent and child combo. All kids under 8 must be with a paying adult. Call 554-9600 for further information.

*July 2: Dip into the art of printmaking with bold and instantly gratifying *monoprints*.

*July 9: Learn about the fascinating habits of owls through *owl pellet dissection*.

*July 16: Make a *spinning top*.

*July 23: Learn to identify animal tracks and make an *animal track bandana* to take with you into the field.

July 30: Have fun making your own *musical instruments*.

Regular Saturday activities include:

*Morning Family Ceramics from 10 to 11:30 a.m. ($5 per person workshop fee)

*Meet the Animals from 11:15 a.m. to 12 noon.

*Animal Feeding at 12 noon.

*Golden Gate Model Railroad Club Exhibit from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

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Book Reviews

"Midnight Magic" Parties for New Harry Potter Book

He's back!

Harry Potter mania is in full force, as the newest J.K. Rowling book, *Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince*, in the wildly popular series goes on sale at 12:01 a.m. on Saturday, July 16.

Young wizards and witches from across the country are expected to attend Harry Potter "Midnight Magic" parties to celebrate. More fun than a game of Quidditch and held at Barnes & Noble stores nationwide, the events include children's activities, giveaways and readings throughout the evening of July 15, culminating in the release of the book at midnight. The events are free and open to the public.

At the arrival two years ago of the last Harry Potter title, "Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix," more than 650 Barnes & Noble stores hosted "Midnight Magic" parties of their own. Tens of thousands of Potter fans were treated to everything from swooping owls and photos with Harry to face painting and a magical performance by master magician Lance Burton in Las Vegas. Nearly 900,000 copies of the Potter book were sold on the first day, shattering all publishing records. This year's book is expected to top even that remarkable feat.

Speculation about what happens next for Harry and his friends is rampant and has already propelled the book to the top of Barnes & Noble's bestseller list. As fans wait for the plot to be revealed, one thing remains clear: placing a preorder now is another great way to own a copy of this summer's hottest read.

How Ethical Are You?

What's your ethics IQ? Take the following test:

1. Your friend asks you if you like the new dress she has just purchased. You think it looks horrible but don't want to hurt her feelings. Would you:

A) Tell her the truth?

B) Find something about the dress that you do like and mention only that?

C) Use language that is accurate but deceptive ("It's incredible! I've never seen anything like it!")?

2. One evening while watching TV, you discover that you are now receiving a premium cable channel that you have not ordered-a mistake by the cable company. Would you:

A) Do nothing but enjoy the free service?

B) Contact the cable company and notify them of the error?

C) Wait a few weeks to see if you really watch the station that often; if not, call the cable company and have them remove it?

3. You learn that a coworker uses company funds for personal reasons. Would you:

A) Keep it to yourself?

B) Encourage the coworker to stop and leave it at that?

C) Tell a supervisor what you know?

The best responses to these questions appear in the new book, "Life Principles: Feeling Good by Doing Good" (Emmis Books, $17.95) by Dr. Bruce Weinstein, The Ethics Guy. (These responses are: 1B, 2B, 3C.)

The message of the book: Taking the high road isn't just the right thing to do; it benefits us professionally and personally.

"Many of us think of ethics as something we ought to take seriously but would rather not," Dr. Weinstein said from his New York office. "In fact, incorporating five simple ethical principles into everything we do is the best way to live a happy, fulfilled life.

"In other words, ethics is not a bitter pill to swallow but the key to bringing out the best in ourselves and others." *NAPS*

Underwater Tactics

with Ken Cook

Catching Bass on Riprap

Go out to any lake or reservoir in the United States and I'm sure you will encounter riprap.

Simply put, riprap is large chunks of broken stone placed to prevent erosion or to form a protective foundation for bridges, dams and riverbanks. Some bodies of water hold miles of this fish holding habitat and many anglers are intimidated by the vastness of the riprap. Solutions to fishing these types of areas are on the minds of many but the answer is relatively simple.

The key to fishing riprap is to find out what's there besides just rock. In order to save time, I first try to narrow down the area to fish by consulting a map. I'll look at the map for deep-water drop offs and nearby channel swings. Then I'll motor down the edge carefully watching my Bottom Line fishfinder for these features and any unseen piles of brush or rocks, slight alterations in the submerged riprap or anything that will give me a place to start.

The cone angle of the Bottom Line's transducer is critical to finding what lurks under the sunken rocks. Too wide of a cone angle won't provide enough detail and too narrow a cone angle scans too little of an area. The Bottom Line 5100 transducers have an 18-degree of medium cone angle that gives me a great picture and helps me to identify exactly what is around the rocks.

The higher the resolution, the clearer the picture will be on your unit's screen. The operating frequency of my transducer is 200kHZ, which is great for shallower water. In addition, I get 3200 watts of Peak-to-Peak power that sends a strong signal and allows the unit to receive a strong echo.

When it comes to selecting bait, I have learned from experience that during the summer months white noisy buzz baits work great in low light conditions, real early or late and maybe even on cloudy days. Since these conditions rarely lasts long I will often slow down and fish soft plastics. The best tip is to try and match the bait to what the bass are eating. When I catch a fish I'll look down its throat hoping to see the tail of a shad or the feelers of a crawfish.

By letting my fishfinder do most of the work, I can significantly narrow my attack on riprap and fish productive water instead of just casting and hoping. Any angler can get the same advantage by selecting a fishfinder with the type of specifications listed above. Then all you have left is the matter of presenting the proper bait and setting the hook. What can be easier than that?

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Micro-Minute
by Mr. Food

Veggie Frittata

(6 servings) "A frittata is basically a quiche without the crust. Teamed up with a salad, it also makes a great lunch or light dinner."

1 tablespoon butter; 2 cans (15 ounces each) mixed vegetables, drained; 6 eggs; 4 tablespoons grated Parmesan cheese, divided; 1 teaspoon onion powder; 3/4 teaspoon salt; ½ teaspoon black pepper.

1. Place the butter in a microwave-safe 9-inch deep-dish pie plate; microwave at 100 percent power for 30 seconds, or until melted.

2. Pour the mixed vegetables evenly over the bottom of the pie plate.

3. In a medium bowl, combine the eggs, 2 tablespoons Parmesan cheese, the onion powder, salt, and black pepper. Whisk well and pour over the vegetables.

4. Microwave at 100 percent power for 4 minutes. Stir the outside mixture into the center. Sprinkle the remaining 2 tablespoons Parmesan cheese over the egg mixture; microwave at 100 percent power for 2 minutes, or until the eggs are set. Slice into wedges, and serve.

Egg Nachos

(2 servings) "Here's a different way to start the day - one that's sure to have everyone shouting 'Olé!'"

2 eggs; 1 tablespoon salsa; 1 cup spicy-flavored tortilla chips; ½ cup shredded Mexican cheese blend.

1. In a small microwave-safe bowl, combine the eggs and salsa; mix well. Microwave at 100 percent power for 1 minute; stir to break up the eggs. Microwave at 100 percent power for 30 seconds; stir to break up the eggs.

2. Place the tortilla chips on a microwave-safe plate. Sprinkle evenly with the cooked eggs. Sprinkle with the cheese and microwave at 100 percent power for 1 minute, or until the cheese is melted.

Save Money with These Fuel Economy Tips

Drivers are hitting the highways more than ever. Since 1970, Americans have increased their vehicle miles traveled by 155 percent, according to a recent Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) report.

Coupled with the rising cost of fuel, this increase in miles driven means that performing regular vehicle maintenance is more important than ever.

That's because service issues such as underinflated tires, clogged fuel injectors and air filters, as well as dirty spark plugs, can make engines and other vehicle components work harder. An engine that has to work harder uses more fuel.

"Americans can save fuel and help the environment by being conscientious about maintaining their vehicles," said Peter Lord, executive director, GM Service Parts Operations. "Regular vehicle inspections by expert technicians like those at GM Goodwrench dealerships, along with maintenance, such as keeping tires properly inflated, can help improve a vehicle's fuel efficiency, reduce emissions and achieve optimal performance."

Mr. Goodwrench offers these tips to help you get more miles out of a gallon of gasoline.

*Take your time: By driving 65 mph instead of 70 mph, you'll save gas. It will take only slightly longer to get to your destination, but each extra hour you spend driv-ing because of a reduction in speed can save you $5. Owners of larger trucks and SUVs may save as much as $10 for each extra hour they drive.

*Don't get that overloaded feeling: Avoid carrying unneeded items, especially heavy ones. An extra 100 pounds in the trunk reduces a typical vehicle's fuel economy by 1 percent to 2 percent.

*Simplified Maintenance: If you own a GM vehicle equipped with the GM Oil Life System (OLS), you can use the Simplified Maintenance plan to save time, money and oil. The plan calls for you to visit your GM Goodwrench dealership only when your "Change Oil" light comes on, instead of every 3,000 miles.

*No burnouts, please: Accelerate evenly from a standstill. Avoid rapid acceleration, overrevving your engine and transmission downshifting. Rapid acceleration can cost up to 12 miles per gallon.

Here are some other money-saving tips that could be music to your ears-literally. The EPA estimates it's possible to save nearly $700 on fuel in one year, based on:

*Filling a 16-gallon fuel tank once a week,

*Replacing air filters regularly,

*Keeping tires properly inflated and

*Using the manufacturer's recommended oil grade.

The money saved through proper maintenance could be enough to buy an XM Satellite Radio subscription for five years or a 40GB MP3 player with car adapter and battery charger-and still have money left over.

GM Goodwrench encourages consumers to visit a dealership for an inspection to ensure that their vehicle is up to date on its maintenance needs. The inspections can point out items needing service-service that can help a vehicle run better, last longer, retain value and provide optimal safety and security. *NAPS*

Survey Shows Gap Between Health Knowledge and Action

Knowledge doesn't equal action when it comes to American health habits. A recent survey reveals nearly all Americans (99 percent) know that consuming healthy foods and beverages, as well as exercising, are important steps to take for optimal heart health. But surprisingly, a large portion don't act on this knowledge-only half make an effort to include healthy foods and beverages in their daily diet. It's no surprise, then, that approximately 13 million Americans suffer from some form of heart disease.

Results of the national survey, conducted by KRC Research on behalf of the Florida Department of Citrus, reveal that nine out of 10 people believe they know the importance of nutrition in maintaining heart health. However, a sizable majority seem unaware of many specifics. For instance, nearly three in five people are unaware that increasing folate and magnesium intake may help reduce the risk for heart disease. In addition, more than half of Americans are not familiar with antioxidants, which help fight the cell and tissue damage that could lead to heart disease.

While people claim to understand that daily activities such as reducing stress, getting a good night's sleep, and exercising are important to heart health, they are not acting on that knowledge. Of those surveyed, only one out of three takes the appropriate daily steps to reduce stress; only half get a good night's sleep each night; and only one out of four exercise daily. All of these are simple but effective daily activities for cardiovascular health.

"Improving heart health does not need to be a complicated or labor-intensive process," states Michael Roizen, M.D., author of the RealAge(r) book series and the new book, "YOU, The Owner's Manual." "Dedicating just a few minutes each day to heart health rituals could help save your life."

The survey also revealed that nearly 90 percent of people say they would be likely to incorporate small, simple steps to improve heart health if they knew what those steps were. Dr. Roizen has outlined five daily "HeartRites" in an effort to aid people in reaching their heart-health goals. "Incorporating these five rituals into a daily routine is a step toward improved heart health each day," explains Dr. Roizen.

Healthy HeartRites

1. Breathe: Finding small ways to reduce stress each day may help improve the health of the heart. Dr. Roizen advises, "Powerful negative emotions are bad for your heart-these emotions can cause high blood pressure." Deep breathing exercises, daydreaming about an upcoming vacation, stretching for five minutes each morning or taking time to have lunch with a friend can reduce stress levels and may help improve heart health.

2. Move: Taking the stairs, parking at the back of the parking lot and walking the dog are just some of the many small activities that can be added to an existing daily routine to improve cardiovascular health. Dr. Roizen states, "Any amount of physical activity lowers ...blood pressure-even walking just a few minutes a day."

3. Drink Orange Juice: Low blood pressure is the most important way to prevent heart disease. Foods and beverages high in potassium aid in controlling blood pressure. On average, Americans suffer from an 800-milligram potassium deficiency. Dr. Roizen suggests including two glasses (16 ounces) of 100 percent orange juice each day to offset this deficit.

4. Floss: Recent studies show a correlation between gum disease and heart disease. People showing the presence of the bacteria that cause gum disease also show thickening of the carotid arteries. Flossing every day will help prevent gum disease and, in turn, may lower the risk of heart disease.

5. Sleep: Getting enough sleep is important to a healthy heart. Studies show that sleep deprivation or too much sleep can increase your risk of heart disease by more than 35 percent. Ensuring six and a half to eight hours of sleep as part of a daily routine may help make a heart significantly healthier. *NAPS*

Antiques & Collectibles

Collecting Ouija Boards

by Anita Gold

Old Ouija boards (pronounced wee-gee or wee-ja) are fascinating to collect and can certainly pick up one's spirits. But be forewarned: If you're superstitious, it's best to merely collect the boards and not play with them. You might get "messages " that can be disturbing if taken seriously. I kid you not!

Ouija boards (as we know them today) first were manufactured in the late 19th century and had the alphabet; numbers from zero to nine; and the words "yes," "no," and "goodbye" printed, painted, or stenciled on them. Ouija boards were also called "spirit boards," Egyptian Luck Boards," "Talking Boards," "Mystifying Oracles", and other games. (The word "ouija" comes from the French and German words for yes, "oui" and "ja.")

The boards came with a triangular planchette that pointed to letters to spell out messages or to answer questions that the board was asked. The Ouija board planchette was based on an earlier triangular device which was a little board mounted on casters holding a pencil. The device was placed on a sheet of paper and was supposed to "write messages" from the spirit world when people's fingertips were placed lightly upon it. Such devices are very rare and date from as early as 1960.

One extremely rare type of planchette, the Little Wonder, is shaped like a shield, and came with an extra Mystic Pointer, legs, casters, and a pencil that was inserted in a hole at one pointed end. Such a device in its original box and with all its parts would be worth a hefty sum. Three or more people could play with the device at one time, but the Quija board was played with by only two people.

The Ouija board is simple to operate and each board came with directions printed on the back or a pasted on its back. But the labels sometimes came loose and were lost.

The directions on all Ouija boards were all pretty much alike. They instructed two people (a lady and gentleman preferred) to place the board on their laps facing each other with the planchette or message indicator on the board. They then were to place their fingertips lightly on the planchette so it could move across easily. They then were to ask the board a question (without fooling around or acting silly) and wait until the indicator spelled out the answer.

Most Quija boards found are manufactured examples, but the most desirable examples are homemade, fashioned from wide pine boards with the letters, words, and numbers scratched in the wood or painted on. Such homemade examples sometimes were embellished with secret good luck symbols, as were factory made models. Some homemade models had breadboard ends as a molding to give the board a finished look and prevent it from warping. An inverted cup, glass or similar object that would slide easily over the board was the planchette. Old homemade pine Ouija boards with a good patina and breadboard ends, are extremely rare and valuable.

The biggest and most famous manufacturer of Ouija boards was William Fuld, who invented and patented the Ouija board in the last third of the 19th century.

The earliest Fuld examples were made of veneered wood and had black stenciled letters, numbers, words, and mysterious symbols on them. Such boards have diagonal cut corners and are marked "Wm. Fuld, Inventor and Manufacturer, 1306 N.Central Av., Baltimore, Md."

The planchette or message indicator that came with the boards was made of solid wood. Later, Fuld Quija boards were made of pressed board or a Masonitelike material covered with paper in a simulated birds-eye maple wood grain design printed with black letters, numbers, words, and symbols. Such examples were marked "William Fuld Harford Av., Lamont Av. and Federal St., Baltimore, Md." and came with a newly designed and patented wooden planchette that featured a little round window pierced by a needle just above its pointed end.

Still later the Fuld boards, still made of pressed board, were marked "William Fuld, Box 1193, Zone 3, Baltimore, Md.," and came with a plastic planchette with a little window. Still later the boards and planchettes were marked "Parker Bros. Inc., Salem, Mass." These boards are printed with these words: "Ouija," "William Fuld, Mystifying Oracle," and the Distinctive Design of the Package are Trademarks for the Talking Board Sets of Parker Bros., Inc., Salem, Mass USA.

The Fuld Boards came in two sizes, 15 by 22-inches and 12 by 18-inches.

There were other manufactured Quija boards, too. One, The Mitche Manitou Board, was manufactured by the Wilder Manufacturing Co. of St. Louis. Made of polished veneered wood with diagonal cut corners, its painted letters and numerals were arranged in a double diamond pattern on the face of the board. The numerals formed a small diamond inside a diamond-shaped arrangement of letters. Instead of a planchette, this Ouija board had a wooden hand inscribed with the words "The Mystic Hand." The index finger pointed to letters and numbers to spell out messages. Such boards are very scarce, especially those complete with "The Mystic Hand." They measure 21 1/2 by 14 1/2-inches, but they could not compete with the Fuld boards which were advertised as the genuine Ouija boards.

Another Ouija board which enjoyed a short production life was manufactured by Russell Ricker & Co. of Chicago. It, too, was veneered to discourage warping. Such boards measure 20 by 15-inches and have the directions printed on the back.

These boards, along with the Mitche Manitou and other early wooden examples, are highly sought after.

The Ouija Board is thousands of years older than its marketing as a plaything. The idea dates to the 6th century BC in Greece where a circle, divided into 24 sections, was traced on the ground. Each section was marked with a letter and covered with a kernel of corn. A cock was let loose and his choice of corn kernels determined the "message." Such a practice was known as "alectryomancy."

Another early version was the Siderian Scales. A gold ring was hung on a thread above a metal vessel inscribed with letters of the alphabet around its rim from which messages were "received."

If you find on old Ouija board, don't be too disappointed if its missing the message indicator. Such pieces often were lost. The value of such boards depends on their age, condition, the material they're made of, and whether they are rare or common examples. Some old Ouija boards can give you the willies while others can give you the sillies depending on your perception, and what the Ouija board tells you that comes true. Years ago, when our son and his friend were boys, they asked a Ouija board if it could tell them who was there, and the planchette pointed to and spelled out a man's name who lived in Chicago and who died in a car accident. The boys went to the main library downtown, and found an old newspaper with the man's name, address, and the date he died in a car accident. After that they didn't play with the Ouija board again.

Q & A

Q. Can you provide me with any information regarding what's called "courting mirrors" and how to recognize them? Rebecca Conway, Norfolk, VA

A. Although there are many types of antique mirrors, or "looking glasses" as they were often called, only one type was connected with romance and adventure on the high seas. Such looking glasses were given to young women by their suitors as tokens of love. Courting mirrors were made in towns along the Atlantic seaboard, and many were brought back from Canton and other Chinese treaty ports by sailors after 1790.

To protect them during the long voyages from China, the mirrors were packed in small wooden boxes and held in place by wooden pegs. In their heyday, from 1790 to about 1830, many a starry-eyed maiden kept her mirror in its case and hung it on the wall, box and all.

Courting mirrors are rather small rectangular affairs with crested tops. Most measure from 6 to 12-inches. Those made along the Atlantic seaboard usually have varnished or oil-finished molded wood frames in high rounded relief, fashioned from maple, walnut, cherry, or pine.

Such examples are simplified versions of the crested mirror frames fashionable between the late Queen Anne and Hepplewhite periods. The majority had arched tops and were beautifully made by craftsmen who took great pride in producing them.

Many courting mirrors had fanciful designs and frames with beaded edges into which long narrow panels were set with painted glass inlays or inserts. They were of exotic woods like Chinese cherry, teak, camphor, or Oriental pine. Most were lacquered with colorful designs and have crests that are decoratively embellished.

Such fancy decorations or motifs were painted within the space of the crested framed tops and along the sides on the long narrow inset panels. They took the shape of flowers, pods, and leaves, and "pots of posies" in rainbow colors.

Because of their popularity, production of imitation courting mirrors began in America at the start of the 19th century. Fancier than earlier American examples, these were copies of the Chinese examples; some cabinet makers even produced them with wooden boxes for protection.

Q. Where can I find early American painted trade signs, and original weathervanes as well as carved figures shaped like animals, birds, and oversized objects? Susanne Peters, Columbia, SC

A. Check with Skinner's Auction and visit their website at www.skinnerinc.com. They have auctioned off huge selections of charming weathervanes (including those shaped like animals, roosters, eagles, horses, cows, a bull, and a magnificent gilded molded copper gamecock on an arrow.

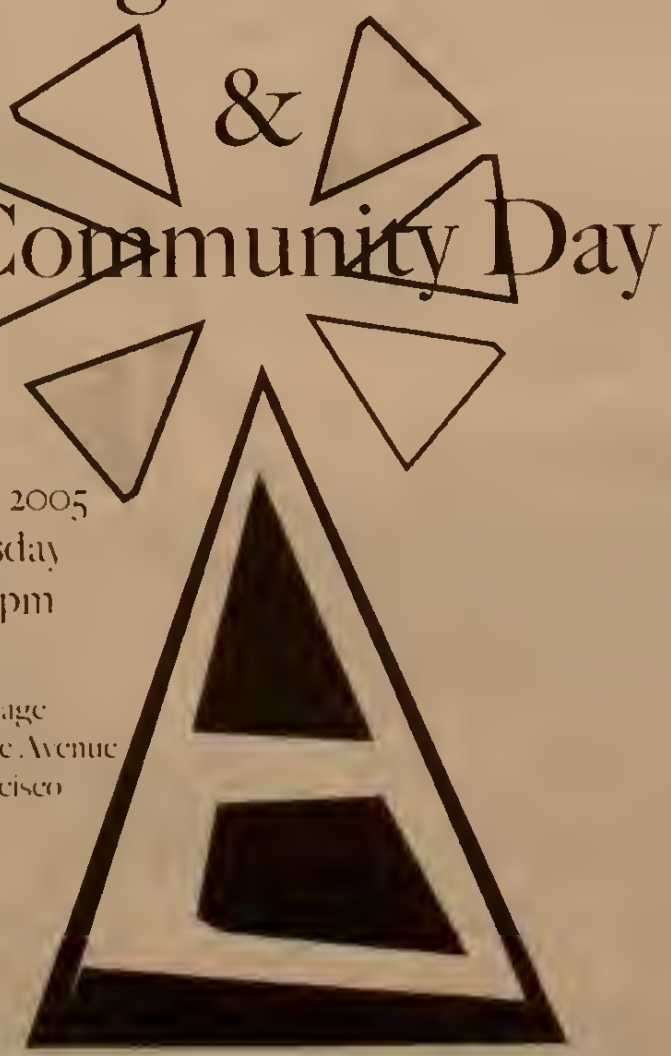
Other items they have dealt with also include original cigar store wooden Indians, carved and painted wooden animals and birds including a dog, horse, crane, whale, and an irresistible large penguin with inset wooden eyes and beak, applied flippers, and a weathered surface mounted on a square wooden base.

Other items are handsome signs including two H.J. Heinz Co. absolutely beautiful advertising signs in bright colors, dating from 1908 in perfect condition including one picturing a little girl wearing a large red hat, leaning against a park bench with a basket of Heinz products on top which says "MAMA'S FAVORITES", and the other picturing two adorable children with a yellow rooster which says "HEINZE'S PICKLES" in large letters to advertise, the brand, that I'm sure the Heinz-Kerry family would love should anyone wish to contact them, and still another gilded and painted rectangular pine sign measuring 12 by 60-inches with the name WINONA in large letters across the front, that may interest Wyonna Judd should anyone wish to contact her.

Be sure to view Skinner's Auction Website to view their current items, leave bids, and view prices realized online. Or phone (978) 779-6241 or FAX (978) 779-5144 immediately.

Write Anita Gold, P O. Box 597401, Chicago, IL 60659. Enclose a self-addressed stamped envelope with a copy of this column and the name of the paper in which it appears for a reply.

Visitacion Valley
Village Celebration



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San Francisco Among America's Cleanest Cities

According to Reader's Digest, San Francisco was named as the nation's fifth cleanest city, among a list of 50 large metropolitan areas featured in the July edition of Reader's Digest.

"San Francisco is truly a city on the cutting edge of innovation when it comes to environmental sustainability," said Mayor Gavin Newsom.

In its rankings, the Reader's Digest poll took into consideration the air quality, drinking-water pollution level, amount of toxic emissions, hazardous waste and sanitation of each city. San Francisco scored a perfect 50 for its drinking water, and also ranked high for its air quality.

The other cities that ranked in the top five include: Portland, San Jose, Buffalo and Columbus. Chicago and New York rounded out the bottom of the top-50 list, earning the lowest scores in all categories evaluated.

Though San Francisco fared well in the poll, the mayor recognized the need to push for more environmentally sound practices.

"Our city will continue to find ways to protect our air quality and public health by increasing the use of solar, hydro, wind and other clean energy sources," said Mayor Newsom.

The Disappearing World War I Veterans

WASHINGTON - Just when things were winding down for Bob Johnson, a group of 90-something veterans turned his life around. Johnson's "second life" began in 1990 at his Air Force retirement ceremony capping a 21-year career.

Johnson invited his longtime neighbor, Jack, to the ceremony. Jack was a World War I veteran, but Johnson really didn't know much about his service. It was a subject that just never came up.

A couple of weeks after that ceremony, Jack invited Johnson to a quarterly district meeting of Veterans of WWI of the USA. Johnson didn't even realize that World War I veterans had their own organization. But he went, and was amazed at what he found.

"There were 10 to 15 men attending at that time and they were all in their mid-90s," Johnson recalled. "They were struggling to keep the minutes of the meeting and do the bookwork, and asked if I would like to help. How could I say no?"

That was the beginning. Soon the group made him an honorary member, and it was only a matter of time before Johnson had a new voluntary career.

"I realized these were our most senior veterans in need of help and assistance. That started me on a mission to help them in whatever way I could," Johnson explained. He went to many of the California World War I veterans' annual conventions, but by the mid-1990s the number of active members had diminished significantly. As a result, the conventions ended because there were not enough of the old guys left and those who were left were too frail to travel. By 1996, his neighbor Jack ended up being the "last man standing" of his barracks (a term used by WWI veterans groups in the same way that "post" or "chapter" is used by more recent groups) before he died at age 100.

Highest Honors from France

Johnson learned the French government wanted to award the Legion of Honor medal, their highest honor, to American World War I veterans who served in France. Knowing that there must be more World War I veterans out there, Johnson went to the French Consulate in Los Angeles and offered to help them find as many as he could in California.

On Nov. 11, 1998 (the 80th anniversary of the World War I Armistice), the French government, through their consulates, started awarding the medals. Approximately 25 were awarded around the country on that day.

The activity received a lot of publicity, prompting people to call the consulates asking about their own grandfathers, fathers or uncles who had also served in World War I. By this time, the consulate in Los Angeles knew Johnson well enough that they would call him when a new inquiry came in.

His role was to visit the family, assist them with the application forms for the medal, and help coordinate a ceremony. Since 1998, with Johnson's tireless assistance, the French government has awarded 55 of these medals to California veterans.

It was during that first busy year of award presentations that Johnson began working with the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) Los Angeles Regional Office of Public Affairs in coordinating media releases for the ceremonies. Word of Johnson's good work spread and he began helping the French consulate in San Francisco, as well. He traveled back and forth helping to locate World War I veterans and arrange medal presentation ceremonies. There was no pay or reimbursement.

"It's a labor of love," he explained. "No one was doing this and I had the flexibility and time to do it. We needed to find them and give them their deserved recognition." It became his passion.

Remarkable Stories

Having spent so much time with these veterans and being a part of their lives, Johnson is a valuable conduit in keeping the stories of these brave men alive. He's learned a lot from these "living histories."

Many of the stories make interesting historical footnotes. One combat veteran, Lucius Perkins, who died at age 105, told Johnson such a story. Perkins worked in communications in the Army. He was on a break from his duties one day when an Army captain came by and asked if he was familiar with communications. When Perkins said yes, the captain told him he needed a communications man in his outfit. Perkins ended up moving over to support the captain's outfit (an artillery unit) and got a promotion out of it. The captain turned out to be Harry S. Truman.

Another veteran Johnson found was still living in the log cabin he built in the 1930s near Sacramento. He also found that many veterans had lied about their age to get into the war.

"It was pretty common," Johnson said. "I ran into many veterans who were actually underage when they went into the Army. [The war] was looked at as an opportunity. Their spirit of patriotism was extraordinary."

Johnson became very close to a Canadian veteran named Clifford Holliday who lived nearby.

"He enlisted when he was just 16 as a bugle boy but ended up in the battle trenches in France before he turned 17," explained Johnson. "This was in 1914 before the U.S. got involved in the war. The trench war early on was horrible, with millions of soldiers killed on each side. Clifford served in the trenches for almost two years in some very difficult times. He was wounded twice. In one particular engagement, his battalion strength started at 1,200 as they tried to take a hill. Only 300 came back."

Holliday, who had become a kind of surrogate grandfather to Johnson, passed away about a year ago at the age of 105.

"It was fascinating to talk with someone who had seen so much in the development of this country," recalled Johnson. "Through Clifford, I learned a lot. It made me more compassionate realizing what these people went through and the difficult times they had compared to what we have today."

The most recent addition to Johnson's repertoire of good deeds for World War I veterans happened earlier this year. News from Puerto Rico about a 113-year-old veteran reached Johnson through family members living there. He knew he had to go there and meet the veteran, Emiliano Mercado del Toro, in person.

"I was trying to find him and was having trouble. A few days before I was scheduled to go back to California, we found him. I called, visited him and his family." Johnson can't help smiling as he recalls the meeting. "It was pretty amazing to meet someone that old – the oldest living man – and veteran."

Within three days back in L.A., Johnson was in touch with the Guinness Book of World Records and started the application process for Mercado del Toro. It took a series of documents to prove he was who he said he was — Guinness has a rigorous standard for accurate verification. One of the documents was a letter from VA verifying his birth date. The process took two months, with Johnson working as liaison between the family and Guinness.

On Jan. 17, Guinness certified Emiliano Mercado del Toro as the world's oldest man and announced it to the world. Johnson went back to Puerto Rico to present the certificate on Jan. 28 with much media attention.

"It was probably the highlight of my life," said Johnson, "to be able to personally present a Guinness world record certificate to the oldest documented living man and to have been involved in getting him certified. The family was very grateful."

Dwindling Numbers

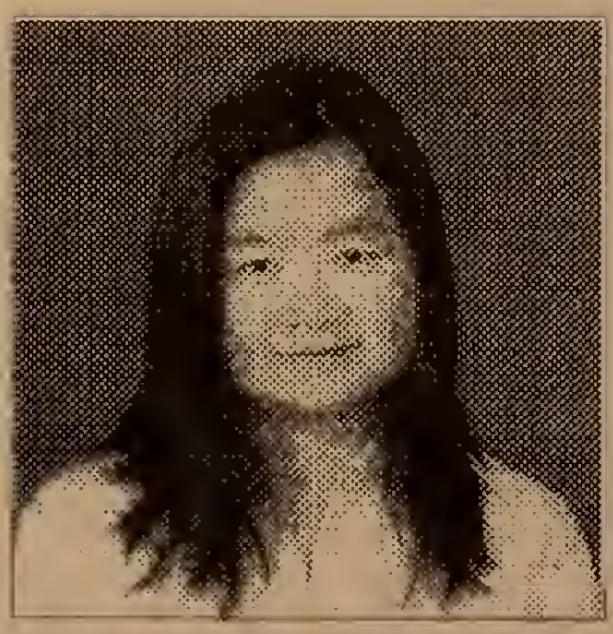
It's hard to know exactly how many World War I veterans are left, but Johnson estimates there are about 30. The numbers are dwindling so fast that in another two years, there may be none. Unfortunately, not everyone knows the sacrifices these men made, and Johnson dedicated much

of his life to bringing their stories to the public. Asked what he's going to do once all the World War I veterans are gone, Johnson didn't miss a beat.

"I am beginning to get involved with World War II veterans," he said with a laugh. "I just started a project over the last six to eight months to identify any World War II veterans who received the Medal of Honor for heroism in France and were not nominated to receive the French Legion of Honor. I found six so far and most are already in process."

Had it not been for his old neighbor Jack opening his eyes, he probably would never have gotten involved with these veterans.

"It really was a bit of fate," Johnson said. "It was an extraordinary opportunity to share their lives and it's a very important legacy we can't let our younger generations forget."



Justyna "Justina" To Neighbor Realtor

屠佩麗

Cell Phone: (415) 830-1235

E-mail: justynato@sbcglobal.net

Century 21 *2488 Junipero Serra Blvd., Daly City*

我講廣東話及國語.

In the coming few years, approximately 2,500 new units will be added in the Visitacion Valley, Bayview Heights area. Please feel free to contact me for further details.

My recent community work includes:
***Petitioned City of S.F. to endorse the Schlage Lock Site Redevelopment Concept Plan**
***Helped to clean Little Hollywood Park**
***Joined the San Francisco Neighborhood Emergency Response Team (NERT)**
***Voiced our needs to fund a new Visitacion Valley branch library, to revive the Little Hollywood Park in a recent hearing of approval of the *Candlestick Cove* project**

I am the neighbor realtor who really lives at, knows and cares about this community. I look forward to your business or referrals for your real estate needs.

Mention this ad and with a completed transaction, I will make a donation to Visitacion Valley Community Center or any charitable organization of your choice.

Grapevine Puzzler — Counties of Oregon

H A M O N T L U M Z C V G F G H G H J C
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Baker	Douglas	Lake	Sherman
Benton	Gilliam	Lane	Tillamook
Clackamas	Grant	Lincoln	Umatilla
Clatsop	Harney	Linn	Union
Columbia	Hood River	Malheur	Wallowa
Coos	Jackson	Marion	Wasco
Crook	Jefferson	Morrow	Washington
Curry	Josephine	Multnomah	Wheeler
Deschutes	Klamath	Polk	Yamhill

Historic Proportions

Match clues to answers.

1904

1. He was elected President on Nov. 8.
2. After 13 years of construction, this was completed in late July.
3. Japan went to war with a neighboring country on Feb. 10.
4. American occupation of country ended on Feb. 5.
5. Fire aboard steamer on June 15 killed hundreds in New York.
6. Tenor made his first recording in America on Feb. 1.
7. Olympic Games were held her in August.
8. Farmers burned two million bales of this in December to raise prices.
9. Work commenced May 4 on this crucial waterway.
10. Subway system's first day here on Oct. 27.
11. Famous baseball stadium opened in New York on Apr. 21.
12. First color photo was published here on Mar. 22.

A. General Slocum
B. Enrico Caruso
C. St. Louis
D. Panama Canal
E. New York City
F. Cotton
G. London Daily Mirror
H. Trans-Siberian Railroad
I. Cuba
J. Polo Grounds
K. Theodore Roosevelt
L. Russia

Answers: 1-K; 2-H; 3-L; 4-I; 5-A; 6-B; 7-C; 8-F; 9-D; 10-E; 11-J; 12-G.

As a Matter of Fact

*James Buchanan was the only United States president never to marry.

Spiders feel, hear, and smell with their legs.

*To estimate the age of a large lobster, multiply its weight in pounds by seven.

*The bright yellow wildflower called a buttercup is also called a crowfoot.

*The first president to be married while in office was John Tyler, the tenth President.

*Woodpeckers' nostrils are narrow slits that prevent flying wood chips from landing in their noses.

*In most people, the right lung takes in more air than the left.

*Cats in the New Jersey town of Piscataway are required by law to be kept indoors or on a leash at all times.

*Hawaii was originally known as the Sandwich Islands.

*Softball has been called by a variety of names: mushroom ball, playground ball, and kitten ball.

Sez Who?

Match quotes to speakers.

1. "Diets are mainly food for thought."
2. "Why do writers write? Because it isn't there."
3. "I don't know the key to success. But the key to failure is trying to please everybody."
4. "Nature has given us two ears but only one mouth."
5. "Better shun the bait than struggle in the snare."
6. "Too many cooks may spoil the broth but it only takes one to burn it."
7. "If you want successful workers, give them enough time to play."
8. "It is better to know some of the questions than all of the answers."
9. Hospitality consists in a little fire, a little food, and an immense quiet.

A. Benjamin Disraeli
B. N. Wylie Jones
C. Madeleine Bingham
D. Ralph Waldo Emerson
E. Thomas Berger
F. John Cleese
G. James Thurber
H. Bill Cosby
I. John Dryden

Answers: 1-B; 2-E; 3-H; 4-A; 5-I; 6-C; 7-F; 8-G; 9-D.

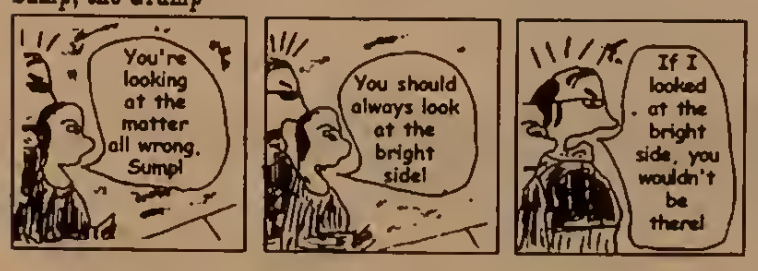
Five Years Ago In the Grapevine

JULY 2000

*Visitacion Valley Community Center honored Randy Tanksley, an instructor who has been a part of its children's programs for nearly three decades.

*Visitacion Valley's third annual Neighborhood was scheduled for September at Leland Avenue and Schwerin Street.

Sump, the Grump



Poor Rix's Almanac

by Rix Quinn

Dear Readers: This time of year many people ask questions about summer camp.

Poor Rix: Did you ever go to summer camp?

Poor Rix attended yearly until winning the counselors' beard growing contest, pretty impressive for a 12-year-old. Then they promoted him to a job in the main cabin, sweeping dust off a dirt floor.

Dear Poor Rix: What should I take to camp?

Poor Rix always packed deodorant, a snakebite kit, and pest repellent, the same things he recommends taking to a political convention.

Poor Rix: Why do camp counselors often have silly nicknames?

Sometimes their names signify special traits. For instance, the counselor called Eagle may have sharp vision. The one named Brain might possess a sharp mind.

Poor Rix once had a counselor called Goat, because he had a sharp odor.

Hey, Poor Rix: Did camping help you learn about wild animals?

Absolutely. Poor Rix learned a camper should never (a) corner a porcupine, (b) play tug-of-war with anything rabid, or (c) pat a foul-smelling black-and-white kitty. (That last experience earned Poor Rix his own cabin, plus a distinctive fragrance that made fellow campers vomit.)

Poor Rix: Did you learn to build a fire at camp?

Yes. One counselor taught us to rub two rocks together to create a spark. He called these rocks "flints."

Poor Rix found a way to light a campfire by rubbing two sticks together. He called these sticks "matches." Dear Poor Rix: I am going to meet my girlfriend's family this weekend, and I want to make a good impression. Should I wear a tie? – Bob

Not without a shirt. But seriously, Bob, appropriate clothing can send the message that you have good taste.

Also, remember that "burping the alphabet" doesn't generally impress parents, and it's especially inappropriate during dinner.

Hey, Poor Rix: Can you suggest a name for my new dog? – Proud Puppy Owner

Poor Rix's friend Chuck named his dog Kitty. The clever canine loves the name, and when Chuck calls him he answers with a loud "meow."

Poor Rix named his dog Wallpaper, so he'll remember he's not supposed to go on the floor.

Dear Poor Rix: Why don't I see birds at night? Where do they go? – Bird Watcher

You can't see birds at night because it gets dark. I don't know where birds go in the evening, because Poor Rix cannot fly without a boarding pass.

Birds don't seem to need much slumber. They rest by closing their eyes and standing still, like Poor Rix does when he's waiting in a grocery line.

I guess birdies take catnaps too…but nowhere near a cat.

Poor Rix: I'm getting married next month, and want to cut wedding costs. I'm not sure my girlfriend agrees. Any suggestions? – August Groom

Poor Rix asked his cheap friend Lester, who's tighter than last year's thong, for low-cost wedding advice. Poor Rix also suggests you consult your bride, who may veto all these ideas:

1. *Location* – Ask a friend with a big den to borrow his house. If you remove the furniture and guests stand up, you can squeeze more in. (And maybe if you invite the neighbors, they'll let you park cars in their driveways.)

2. *Invitations* – Handwritten invitations add a personal touch, especially if scribbled in crayon on lined school paper. Instead of "RSVP" on the notes, Lester added "If you can't be present, just send a present."

3. *Clothing* – Lester and his bride suggested a "tee shirts only" event that attracted all their friends, plus three simpletons who wore tee shirts and nothing else.

4. *Rings* – Lester's bride gave him a ring inscribed "14 k gold." He gave her one inscribed "93 percent recycled material."

5. *Something Old* – Lester's car has three speeds: reverse, slow, and downhill.

6. *Something New* – His bride's tee shirt said, "I'm with Stupid."

7. *Something Borrowed* – Lester borrowed everything, including the scented candles. The best man said his hair smelled like vanilla for three days.

8. *Something Blue* – The bride's mood after two weeks with Lester.

Hey, Poor Rix: Dandelions will grow in my yard, even if I spray weed killer on them or cut them up. But I have never, ever been able to raise a dandelion in a pot! Why is this? – Brown Thumb

Poor Rix loves dandelions, and considers himself a wild flower who also thrives in moderate climates, flies frequently from place to place, and may sometimes be viewed as a pest.

Did you know the first dandelions came to America with the colonists? Some said its leaves could be used in salad, and wine could be made from its flowers.

The dandelion also produces its own fertile seeds, so it does not require birds or bees for pollination. (That ends the only birds-and-bees lecture you'll see in this Almanac.)

Perhaps the secret of the flower's growth is long roots (up to three feet), which might explain its inability to grow in a pot while flourishing in a back yard.

Poor Rix also loves the back yard, and could never make his home in a pot because his face would flush.

Dear Poor Rix: My wife is pregnant and gets morning sickness, which also makes me nauseous. Is that a sympathy pain? – Expectant Father

Ask yourself these questions: (1) Do I really feel sorry for her? (2) Could I be the first pregnant man in history? (3) If I am, should I consider a C-section?

But seriously, a recent study discovered that married people often had the same diseases, even non-contagious ones. Maybe this explains why some partners get sick of marriage.

Dear Poor Rix: It's real hot around here now. And to make things worse, somebody in my office smells really bad. How can I tell if it's me, or somebody else? – Scared to Offend

Body odor comes in all shapes and sizes, from all directions. The first culprit can be bad breath.

Some experts recommend tooth brushing twice a day and flossing. Some also recommend using a tongue scraper, but never in the middle of a party, especially if one is serving finger food.

To check your own breath, lick the back of your freshly washed hand, wait for the saliva to evaporate, then smell it. Never lick a dirty hand, or one that has just touched nuclear waste.

Long ago, ancient people experimented with several underarm deodorants, including cinnamon and citrus. Then cannibals moved nearby, and found the smell so irresistible they originated the expression "Let's have the neighbors over for dinner."

In modern days, dedicated scientists tested underarm sweat. They discovered fresh sweat was odorless, but if stored several hours it became offensive.

So, the answer to your question, Scared to Offend, is: "Who nose?"

Finally, I leave you with the immortal words of my old uncle, who said, "If your nose runs, and your feet smell, you're built upside down."

Poor Rix offers bad answers to good questions. E-mail him at rixquinn@charter.net.

July Youth Events At Visitacion Valley Branch Library

Following are events in June at the Visitacion Valley Branch Library, 45 Leland Ave. (at Desmond Street):

*July 8, Friday at 1:15 p.m.: *Museum of Craft and Folk Art* - Make an African American quilt for the Library - for ages 5 and older. Space limited. Call 415-355-2848 for reservations.

*July 12, Tuesday at 10:30 a.m.: *Songs and Music Games from Around the World* with Bonnie Lockhart - for ages 3 and older.

*July 15, Friday at 2 p.m.: *Flute Sweets and Ticklетoons* - Musical storytelling for ages 5 and older.

*July 19, Tuesday at 10:30 a.m.: *Clown Around with Jimbo* - for ages 3-5.

*July 26, Tuesday at 10:30 a.m.: *Dragon Craft* - for ages 3-5.

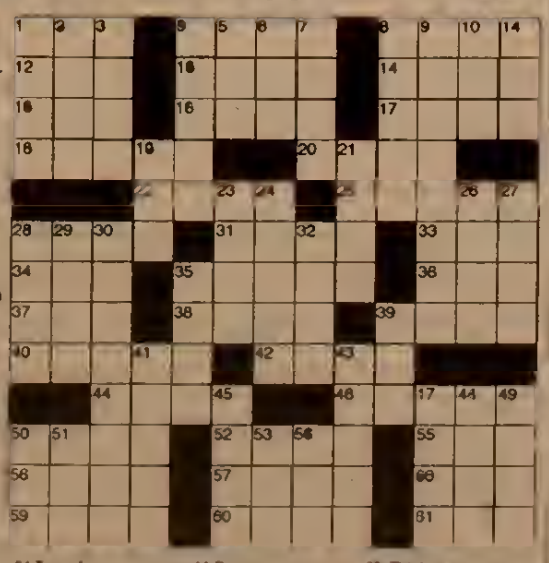
Grapevine Want Ads

VOLUNTEERS WANTED for VVCC After School Program to tutor children ages 5-14 at one of our 11 sites in the Visitacion Valley area. Interested persons contact Dee Smith, VVCC After School coordinator: (415) 585-2059.

GRAPEVINE DISPLAY ADVERTISING: new limited-time rates: Full Page: $60; 1/2 Page $33.75; 1/4 Page $18.75; 1/8 Page $10; 1/12 Page $8; 1/16 Page $6. Generous discount for three or more insertions. Call (415) 467-9300 for more details. ***Want Ads:*** 20 words for $1. Extra line 50 cents. Ad and payment should be received by 15th of prior month at Visitacion Valley Grapevine, 50 Raymond Ave., San Francisco, CA 94134.

Crossword Puzzle

Solution on Page 11



ACROSS
1 Record
4 Women's Army Aux. Corps (abbr)
8 Footless
12 Amer. Bar Assn. (abbr)
13 Blood (pref)
14 Tiber tributary
15 3 (Rom. Numeral)
16 Sweet spire
17 Protuberance
18 Jap. Sword
20 Dravidian language
22 Festival
25 Popular girl
28 Afr. Gazelle
31 Russ. Range
33 Office of Economic Development (abbr)
34 Turkish caliph
35 Whiff
36 Exclamation
37 Angry
38 American Natl. Standards Inst. (abbr)
39 Ground (pref)
40 Buddhist saint
42 Noble
44 Ecuador (abbr)
46 Land of Croesus
50 Empty
52 Created
55 Scot. alder tree
56 Star (pref)
57 Woden
58 Roofing slate
59 Social climber
60 Hindu Cobra
61 To or from a distance (pref)

DOWN
1 Non-cleric
2 Fetish
3 Lope
4 Pule
5 At the age of (Lat)
6 Soul or spirit (Fr)
7 Heddles of a loom
8 Talus
9 Queen of Ithaca
10 Mountain (pref)
11 Drop
19 Africa (abbr)
21 Skillful
23 Rotate
24 Undo
26 Guide
27 Lover of Narcissus
28 Ceylonese langur
29 Whistling swan
30 Yet
32 Tart
35 Braz. Armadillo
39 Thickness
41 Astringment
43 Queen of Italy
45 King of Judah
47 Pointed missile
48 "Dies_"
49 Anglican (abbr)
50 Low (Fr)
51 Army service number (abbr)
53 Amer. Dental Assn. (Abbr)
54 Grub

Bayview Police Station Update

by Bayview Captain Rick Bruce

Police Cases

*On May 21 at 12:46 p.m., a man living on the 700 block of Bacon Street was arrested at Sweeney and Barneveld for possession of a loaded and concealed handgun following a routine traffic stop. Also found in the man's car were brass knuckles, a knife, cocaine, marijuana, and a stun gun. The man was booked for all of these offenses.

*On May 20 at 7:49 p.m., officers responded a call of shots fired at 238 Princeton and found a male victim shot on the sidewalk. The male, with an address in Oakley, California, expired of his wounds. A second victim, with an address in El Sobrante, was also at the scene and had also been shot. A Latin male suspect was seen fleeing the scene. He is described as being 25-30, 5'10", 180, hair in pony tail, wearing a white T-shirt and tan shirt, fled east on Felton.

*On May 23 at 8:56 a.m., dispatch sent officers to the area of San Bruno and Wayland regarding a battery. When they arrived, they met with the victim who then told them that she was coming to the city for a job interview. She arranged for the suspect to give her a ride. He showed up intoxicated and insisted she get in the car. He then forced her in the car and drove off. He drove the vehicle and stopped on Mansel. He threw the victim to the ground on the side of the road. The suspect then drove off with the victim's items still in the car. An emergency protective order was issued. The following day officers from the day watch unit went looking for the suspect. They located him at his address on Carr Street. They arrested him and recovered the victims backpack and contents. His story was very similar with out the physical abuse. He stated that she threw herself out of the vehicle. He was booked at County Jail.

*On May 24 at 7:20 p.m. on the 1500 block of Silliman, plain-clothes officers with knowledge from an inspector in the burglary detail went looking for a suspect whose fingerprints came back in a burglary. They located the suspect and arrested him without incident.

*On May 25 at 3:30 p.m., an officer took a report at 2198 Bayshore from a man who had parked his car in the 7-11 parking lot on Bayshore and was walking into the store when he heard a loud crash. The man turned around to see a suspect running from his just car, which now had a smashed windshield. The suspect is a black male, 31-36, 6'1", 200, wearing a black baseball cap, black shirt, and black jeans.

*On May 27 at 1:32 a.m., officers responded on a call at the 700 block of Cambridge of a woman screaming for help and located a woman who told them that a man had just attempted to rape her. The woman stated that she was coming home from a bar on Mission Street and a man in a passing car asked her if she wanted a ride home. The woman accepted the ride and the man then drove to Cambridge Street and made sexual advances to the woman, telling her that she was going to "...do what I say." The woman jumped from the vehicle and tried to pry the license plate from the vehicle. The suspect fled in the vehicle. The woman was very intoxicated and stated that this is why she chose to try to pull the license plate from the car rather than try to remember the letters and numbers. The suspect is Hispanic male, 30-40, short hair, no further. The vehicle and license were not described.

*On May 31 at 10:55 a.m., an officer responded on the report of a fight at the 2400 block of San Bruno and spoke with the victim, who was bleeding profusely from a head wound. The victim stated that he works for the gas station and the two suspects had just come in to pick up their vehicle after it had been repaired. The suspects were upset about the bill and punched the victim, knocking him to the ground where he struck his head on the pavement. The first suspect, living on Osceola, was booked for aggravated assault and possession of crack cocaine. The second suspect, living on the 1200 block of Fitzgerald, was booked for aggravated assault.

*On June 1 at 4:40 p.m., officers responded on a theft call at the 2400 block of San Bruno and spoke with the caller who stated that she had just exited the bus and was walking down the street when she was approached from the rear by a suspect who forcibly stole her I-Pod. The suspect is described as having gold teeth and wearing a camouflage jacket and black jeans.

*On June 2 at 2:26 p.m., an officer spoke with a 13-year-old student at MLK School at 350 Girard who stated that he had just been shot (with an air gun) by a fellow student (8th grader). School authorities were interviewed and stated that the suspect had already been suspended for an unrelated matter.

*On June 2 at 11:40 p.m., officers responded on the call of a battery at 787 Dartmouth and spoke with the caller who stated that she became involved in an argument with her adult son when he refused to turn down the volume on his stereo. The son then threw his shoes at the mother, striking her in her legs. The mother wished the son arrested and he was charged with simple battery

*On June 4 at 2:30 p.m., officers arrested two men for robbery after they had attacked a third man on the 2400 block of San Bruno and stolen his gold chain. The first man, a transient, was booked for robbery, conspiracy, and battery. The second man, living on Alemany, was booked for the same charges.

*On June 7 at 12 midnight, an officer was on patrol at Girard and Felton when he attempted to stop a vehicle for traffic violations and the vehicle took off at a high rate of speed and was lost in the area. The vehicle, a 1987 Honda, was later found parked and unattended in front of 206 Arleta. The vehicle was impounded and a search of its interior revealed a stash of marijuana.

*On June 7 at 3:20 p.m. an officer responded to the Bell Market at 1390 Silver on a shoplifting case and took custody of a man caught by store security stealing several items. The man, living on Jennings, was booked for petty theft with a prior conviction.

*On June 10 at 11:20 a.m., a 16-year-old student at Burton High was cited for possession of stolen property after being caught on videotape stealing electronic equipment from a classroom during graduation exercises. Two additional students were also caught on tape and are wanted for questioning.

*On June 13 at 8:06 p.m., an officer was on patrol at Burrows at Bowdoin when he attempted to stop a vehicle for traffic violations and the vehicle took off at a high rate of speed. The officer followed the vehicle to obtain its license plate number, and once he did, he realized that the vehicle had been taken earlier at gunpoint in a carjacking incident. The officer followed the vehicle up a steep section of Bowdoin and the driver jumped from the auto, allowing it to roll backward into the police car as the driver fled on foot. The suspect scaled a nearby fence and ran into the water storage area, which was cordoned off by responding officers. The suspect was eventually caught by Bayview officers in front of 760 Bacon as he ran from the area. The suspect, 18 years of age and living in Tracy, was booked for robbery, carjacking, and a variety of related offenses.

*On June 15 at 12:27 a.m., a man living on the 2800 block of San Bruno was booked for a drunk driving warrant.

*On June 16 at 12:28 p.m., an officer responded to the Bank of the West at 2675 San Bruno and spoke with an employee who reported that a man had attempted to cash a stolen and fraudulent check. The man, living in Oakland, had fled prior to the arrival of the officer, but he left his California ID card behind

*On June 16 at 7:19, officers responded to 421 Hamilton on a gun robbery call and spoke with the male caller who reported that he had just been robbed at gunpoint while walking home. The suspects had pulled up in a dark red, 2-door, American made late 80s vehicle, and two of them exited the car and pointed a gun at the victim, demanding his property. Suspect one is a black male, 21-25, driving the vehicle. Suspect two is a black male, 5'8", 150, wearing a black jacket and black T-shirt. Suspect three is a black male, rear passenger in the auto.

*On June 17 at 12:10 a.m., officers responded on a call at 787 Dartmouth of a suspicious vehicle and stopped a vehicle matching the description provided. The driver of the vehicle was 15 and admitted to officers that he had no license. The officers ran the rear plate and found it to be a stolen license plate. The front plate was also reported as stolen, and the vehicle's ID showed that it too was stolen. The thief had apparently stolen a license plate from another car and placed it over the issued license, not expecting the owner of the stolen plate to report it so quickly. The young man, living on the 700 block of Dartmouth, was booked for stolen auto, possession of stolen property, possession of burglar tools, and various traffic offenses. He was also booked for an outstanding arrest warrant charging him with robbery.

*On June 18 at 4:16 p.m., a woman, living on Tucker was arrested at 960 Illinois for possession of amethamphetamine and an outstanding arrest warrant.

*On June 20 at 6 p.m. on Mansell and San Bruno, an officer took a report of a robbery from a female high school student who stated that she had been attacked by six girls when walking home from summer school. The victim stated that the suspects beat and kicked her and then fled. The victim believes all of the suspects live in the Sunnydale Development, and knew one of the girls is named Denisha and attends Burton High School.

*On June 21 at 2:07 p.m., an officer responded on a burglary call at 1200 Silliman St. and spoke with a homeowner who reported that he had returned home to find his home burglarized. A neighbor had seen two suspects breaking into the home and reported this to the officer. Suspect one is a black male, 17-22, 5'5", 120, wearing a white oversized sweatshirt and blue jean pants. Suspect two is a black male, 5'5", 120, wearing a red sweatshirt and blue jean pants.

*On June 23 at 4:45 p.m. an officer responded on a robbery call at San Bruno and Mansell and spoke with a woman

who reported that she was waiting on the street for the bus when a car pulled up and two men got out and approached her. The men threatened to shoot the woman if she didn't give them her property and she complied.

Suspect one is a Hispanic male, 5'7", 160, wearing a black sweatshirt pulled over his head. Suspect two is a Hispanic male, 5'7", 160, wearing a black sweatshirt pulled over his head. The vehicle is described as a dark colored four door car.

Police Summaries

*May 25: 7:47 a.m., Bayshore Blvd. & Bacon St., suspended license.

*May 25: 4:15 p.m., Brussels & Ordway Sts., stolen auto.

*May 25: 6:07 p.m., Bacon & Brussels Sts., recovered stolen auto

*May 26: 7:29 p.m. 300 block of Lathrop Ave., disturbing the peace.

*May 30: 8:40 a.m., San Bruno Ave. & Bacon St., unlicensed driver.

*May 31: 7 a.m., 2859 San Bruno Ave., vandalism to vehicle.

*May 31: 10:30 a.m., 100 Tioga Ave., hit and run

*May 31: 3 p.m., 287 Raymond Ave., missing juvenile

*May 31: 4:10 p.m., San Bruno Ave. & Woolsey St., battery

*May 31: 9:47 p.m., 166 Brussels St., recovered stolen auto.

*June 1: 2:20 p.m., 601 Dartmouth St., stolen auto.

*June 1: 3:20 p.m., 2489 San Bruno Ave., petty theft.

*June 1: 9:40 p.m., 208 Woolsey St., domestic violence.

*June 2: 1:33 a.m., Girard & Felton Sts., hit and run.

*June 2: 9:10 a.m., Arleta Ave. & Delta St., stolen motorcycle.

*June 2: 10:37 p.m., Silliman & Somerset Sts., stolen truck.

*June 6: 12:33 a.m., 2511 San Bruno Ave., theft from building.

*June 6: 7:49 p.m., 468 Brussels St., burglary

*June 7: 2:28 p.m., 1478 Silver Ave., burglary

*June 8: 8:50 a.m., 15 Blanken Ave., hit and run.

*June 8: 9:25 a.m., San Bruno Ave. & Bacon St., suspended license.

*June 8: 10:50 a.m., 445 Holyoke St., stolen auto.

*June 8: 11:58 a.m., 237 Dwight St., mental health detention

*June 9: 12:32 p.m., 400 Mansell St., burglary

*June 10: 4 p.m., 230 Nueva Ave., fraudulent use of ATM card (Teleserve report)

*June 14: 1 p.m., 2800 San Bruno Ave., graffiti

*June 14: 1:20 p.m., 2494 San Bruno Ave., graffiti.

*June 14: 1:33 p.m., 2700 San Bruno Ave., graffiti.

*June 13: 1:39 p.m., 2901 San Bruno Ave., graffiti

*June 15: 11:46 a.m., 40 Princeton St., harassing phone calls, domestic violence.

*June 16: 6:15 a.m., 140 Brussels St., burglary

*June 16: 8:40 a.m., 555 Somerset St., stolen license plate.

*June 16: 3:25 p.m., 244 Princeton St., sexual battery.

*June 20: 1:30 p.m., Girard & Felton Sts., suspended license

*June 20: 2:51 p.m., Lathrop & Tocoloma Aves., arson (park bench).

*June 21: 8:30 a.m., 659 Felton St., domestic violence.

*June 21: 11:55 a.m., San Bruno Ave. & Felton St., suspended license.

*June 22: 2:43 a.m., 656 Brussels St., burglary, residence.

*June 22: 5:10 a.m., 2658 San Bruno Ave., burglary, commercial

*June 22: 9:30 a.m., Girard & Mansell Sts., suspended license.

*June 22: 10:30 p.m., 300 block of Lathrop Ave., disturbing the peace.

*June 23: 1:09 a.m., 2335 Silver Ave., mental health detention

*June 23: 1:41 a.m., 114 Girard St., domestic dispute.

*June 23: 8 a.m., 1478 Silver Ave., burglary

*June 23: 8:20 a.m., Silver Ave. & Hamilton St., auto boost.

One in Ten National Drivers Would Fail DMV-Style Test

Results of a recently-released study rank California drivers 43rd in the nation for their driving knowledge. Overall, the results of the study suggest that millions of Americans lack basic knowledge of rules of the road and safe automobile operation.

In fact, the study shows that, if tested today, one in ten drivers – nearly 20 million Americans – would fail a state drivers test.

California drivers had an overall average score of 80.4 percent (70 percent or higher is required to pass the test); 12 percent of California respondents failed the test.

The alarming results were part of the inaugural GMAC Insurance National Drivers Test, a study of almost 5,000 licensed drivers nationwide, between ages 16-65 years, designed to gauge Americans' driving knowledge. The study evaluated Americans' everyday driving habits unveiling dangerous driving behaviors. Respondents were administered a 20-question written test representative of those used to award state drivers permits or license.

Oregon drivers ranked highest on the test with an overall average score of 89 percent (70 percent or higher is required to pass a standard driving test); Rhode Island ranked lowest with an overall score of 77 percent.

Results suggest that many Americans find standard driving practices vexing, including merging, failure to yield when making left turns, and road sign interpretation, and that many have a cavalier approach to such important topics as drinking and driving. Twenty-nine percent (57 million) of drivers who drink admitted they would knowingly drive while over the legal limit "if they felt okay."

"The test supports the need to stay abreast of the rules of the road, and to put them into practice each and every day," said Gary Kusumi, CEO and president, GMAC Insurance - Personal Lines. "Part of our job as auto insurers is to educate our customers, empowering them to become better, safer drivers to avoid accidents and to keep their lives moving.

According to the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety (IIHS), a non-profit research organization funded by auto insurers, areas where respondents showed lack of knowledge or a propensity for unsafe practices are also common causes of auto accidents.

For example, IIHS research shows that speeding increases both the likelihood of crashing and the severity of the crashes that do occur and that younger drivers speed more often than older drivers. In addition, the IIHS states that alcohol-impaired driving is still a major problem.

Since 1997 about a third of fatally injured passenger vehicle drivers have had a Blood Alcohol Concentration (BAC) of 0.08 percent or above. Driving with a BAC of 0.08 percent or higher is illegal in every state.

Where Knowledge is Lacking

*Drivers 18-24 years old are most likely to fail a written driving test (78 percent passing rate); drivers 50-64 years are most likely to pass (85 percent passing rate).

*Drivers in the Northeast and Mid-Atlantic are the least knowledgeable; 1 in 5 were unable to pass the written drivers test.

*Drivers in the Pacific Northwest and Great Lakes are the most knowledgeable with a failure rate of 1 to 3 percent.

Pedestrians Beware

*At least 1 out of 5 drivers do not know that a pedestrian has the right of way at a marked or unmarked crosswalk. This is of special concern considering that drivers in urban areas are among the least knowledgeable in the nation.

*1 out of 3 drivers claim to speed up to make a yellow light even when pedestrians are in the crosswalk.

*1 out of 4 drivers would roll through a stop sign rather than come to a complete stop.

According to IIHS, in 2003, 48 percent of all pedestrian injuries and 21 percent of fatal injuries to pedestrians occur in collisions with motor vehicles at intersections.

Speeding Remains a Problem

*The nation's least knowledgeable drivers (Northeast and Mid-Atlantic drivers) are the most likely to speed.

*Nebraska's drivers are least likely to exceed the speed limit.

*1 out of 10 drivers regularly drives over the speed limit by 11 or more miles per hour, although 58 percent of drivers feel that driving 10 miles per hour over the speed limit on the interstate is dangerous.

*Younger drivers (18-24 years old) are most likely to speed; older drivers (65+) are least likely.

More Bad Driving Habits

*Half of Americans report that they do not know how to merge into heavy traffic.

*60 percent of Americans say that they change lanes on a highway without using their blinker.

*One-third of Americans have packed their car so tightly that their vision was obstructed.

*17 percent of Americans have driven without a rear view or driver's side mirror.

*1 out of 5 drivers do not know that highways are the most slippery just when it starts to rain after a dry spell. Fortunately, 96 percent of those tested say that they know what to do when they hydroplane.

The test was administered by TNS NFO, the world's largest custom research company and a leading provider of social and political polling, www.tns-global.com. Drivers were given a 20-question test representative of a DMV written drivers test typically used to award a driver's permit or license.

Visitacion Valley Police Report

by Ingleside Captain Paul Chignell

Police Cases

*On May 19 at 10:15 a.m., officers went to the 200 block of Hahn Street on a report of a man yelling at a woman on the street and threatening to kill her. The suspect, who lives in the area, was arrested for criminal threats. At 2:30 p.m. officers went to the 100 block of Hahn on a citizen standby call. When they arrived they noticed a victim trembling in the house. They located a suspect in an upstairs bedroom but when the suspect saw the officers, he jumped out of bed, engaged in a karate stance and kicked out a window with full force. The officers struggled with the suspect and finally subdued him. The victim then told the officers that the suspect had kidnapped her six days before, falsely imprisoned her and threatened to kill her. The suspect was arrested on numerous felony counts with the investigation continuing.

*On May 22 at 1:30 p.m., officers stopped a suspect on a motorbike at Hahn and Sunnydale for reckless driving, no license, no insurance and other charges. The suspect resides on Santos.

*On May 25 at 1:35 a.m., officers were at San Francisco General Hospital on an unrelated case when they came to the assistance of a deputy sheriff who was trying to subdue a domestic violence suspect in the hospital. The suspect had repeatedly struck his girlfriend. The officers sustained minor injuries in the struggle with the suspect who lives on Britton Court. The suspect was arrested on a domestic violence charge.

*On May 26 at 8 p.m., an officer stopped a vehicle at Sunrise and Hahn for a seatbelt violation. The driver, who lives on Harest Street, was unlicensed. She was cited and the vehicle towed.

*On May 29 at 10 p.m., officers went to the 500 block of Campbell on a domestic violence case. They arrested a subject the scene for beating his wife and threatening to kill the children.

*On May 30 at 11 p.m., officers went to the 1200 block of Girard on a drunken fight. They encountered a suspect who lives in the area and arrested her for assault and criminal threats.

*On May 31 at 2:22 p.m., officers observed a wanted subject on the 100 block of Brookdale. He was taken into custody on a warrant charging driving with a suspended license.

*On June 2 at 9:40 a.m., officers went to the 500 block of Sawyer where a 24-year-old man was asking for a standby from the police so he could remove his clothes from the residence. Once the officers arrived and investigated they determined that the young man had beaten and falsely imprisoned his mother. He was arrested for felony assault and other charges.

*On June 3 at 1:20 p.m., an officer stopped a vehicle at Hahn and Visitacion for a brake light violation. The driver, who lives on the 900 block of Ellsworth, was unlicensed. He was cited and his 1983 Honda was towed.

*On June 4 at 7:17 p.m., officers observed a vehicle make a turn at Cora and Sunnydale without signaling. The officers stopped the vehicle and found the vehicle to be stolen. They also found quantities of narcotics in the vehicle. The driver, a resident of Towerside, was booked on numerous felonies.

*On June 7 at 10:30 p.m., officers stopped an errant driver at Hahn and Visitacion. The driver had a $5,000 warrant for his arrest for driving unlicensed and other vehicular violations. He resides on Blythdale. At 12 midnight, officers observed two subjects loitering in McLaren Park. They stopped to investigate and found one suspect, who lives on Fitzgerald, had a battery warrant for his arrest.

*On June 8 at 2:13 a.m., officers observed a driver go through the stop sign at Santos and Sunnydale. The driver, a resident of the 300 block of 3rd Street, had a warrant for solicitation of prostitution.

*On June 9 at 7:30 p.m., officers responded to a report of shots fired and a burning car in McLaren Park off of Cambridge. A male victim was found in the vehicle expired. This is an active Homicide investigation.

*On June 10 at 5:40 a.m., officers went to the 200 block of Felton on a domestic violence call. The female victim had been beaten about the head and strangled by her husband after a dispute over sleep habits and gambling. The husband also threatened to kill his wife. The suspect was arrested on multiple felonies. At 11 p.m., officers went to the 1700 block of Sunnydale on a dispute. They located a suspect who resides on the 200 block of Blythdale. He was wanted on a no bail sex offender warrant.

*On June 11 at 3:30 p.m., officers went to Schwerin and MacDonald on a report of a trespasser and dispute. The officers located a suspect who resides on Heritage and arrested him for a no bail parole warrant. At 5 p.m., officers checked an abandoned housing unit on the first block of Brookdale. They located a suspect there who was wanted on a narcotics warrant from San Mateo County.

*On June 12 at 12:32 a.m., officers and a sergeant from the Gang Task Force went to a residence on the 1700 block of Sunnydale, recovered a revolver and charged one suspect with a firearms violation. At 6:50 a.m., officers went to the 300 block of Alpha on a report of two suspects breaking into an automobile. They were joined by additional officers who obtained a description of the suspects and began searching the area. They located the suspects at Rutland and Arleta where the suspects were identified by the witness to the incident. The officers arrested the suspects for auto burglary and possession of narcotics. They also obtained evidence on the suspects tying them to the crime. The suspects reside on Towerside and Hudson.

*On June 13 at 3:18 a.m., officers went to the 2200 block of Bayshore on a report of a man causing a disturbance and fighting in a commercial establishment. The officers confronted the suspect but he began to fight with the officers. They subdued him and arrested the suspect, who is a transient, for assault and resisting arrest.

*On June 15 at 9:07 a.m., an officer went to Felton and Madison on a suspicious vehicle. A check of the driver revelaed a $5,000 warrant for driving with a suspended license. The suspect resides on Felton. At 10:15 p.m., officers were on Santos patrolling on foot when they encountered numerous gang members, some of whom were on probation with warrantless search conditions. Some of the suspects took off running when they saw the officers. One suspect, who lives on Blythdale was arrested for assault and resisting arrest and the other from the 1900 block of Sunnydale was cited for interfering. The officers were also subjected to subliminal verbal threats of violence in the future.

*On June 17 at 2:40 p.m., officers went to the 100 block of Blythdale on a report of a suspect selling drugs. The officers located the suspect by the description given and found suspected heroin, cocaine and marijuana on his person. The suspect, who lives on the 700 block of 22nd Street, was arrested on numerous charges.

*On June 18 at 3:27 a.m., a woman stepped outside of her house on the 2000 block of Geneva to smoke a cigarette when she noticed two suspects "casing" parked cars in the neighborhood. She then saw the suspects spray painting graffiti on two vehicles. She called the police with officers responding to the call. The officers observed the two suspects take off running to the Cow Palace parking lot. The officers chased the suspects with one being tackled and subdued and then the second found hiding in a group of bushes. The suspects had evidence on their persons linking them to the crime. The suspects, who live on the 100 block of Athens and the 200 block of Allison, were charged with malicious mischief, conspiracy and resisting arrest. At 5:45 p.m., officers went to the area of Bayshore and Arleta on a report of a suspect brandishing an icepick. Numerous officers from Bayview and Ingleside searched the area for the suspect. The suspect, who lives on Cashmere, was located by Bayview officers at San Bruno and Paul. The suspect was positively identified and the icepick was recovered from his person.

Police Summaries

*May 18: 9:30 a.m., first block of Brookdale Ave., burglary, window, television
*May 19: 9:39 a.m., first block of Blythdale Ave., felony assault.
*May 19: 10:30 a.m., 2500 block of Geneva Ave., robbery, pursesnatch.
*May 19: 11 e.m. Hahn St. & Sunndale Ave., domestic violence.
*May 19: 8:02 p.m., 200 block of Hahn St., threats.
*May 19: 9:30 p.m., first block of Santos St., shots fired.
*May 20: 5:12 a.m., first block of Arleta Ave., shot into wall of house.
*May 22: Elliott & Teddy Sts., stolen 1990 Acura
*May 22: 1500 block of Sunnydale Ave., missing juvenile.
*May 22: First block of Blythdale Ave., violation of stayaway
*May 22: 100 block of Britton St., mental detention.
*May 22: first block of Tioga Ave., vandalism
*May 22: 1794 Sunnydale Ave., found 1985 Cadillac.
*May 23: 7:45 p.m., 100 block of Rey St., burglary, ransack.
*May 23: 1700 block of Sunnydale Ave., child taken to shelter.
*May 23: San Bruno Ave. & Bacon St., pickpocket.
*May 23: 327 Arleta Ave., stolen 1987 Toyota
*May 24: 5:45 p.m., 1500 block of Sunnydale Ave., suspect fled car when spotted by officers, firearm found in vehicle, suspect known
*May 25: 12:10 a.m., 1600 block of Sunnydale Ave., felony assault, shot in ear
*May 25: 6 a.m., first block of Leland Ave., burglery, laundromat.
*May 25: 6:15 a.m., Garrison Ave. & Schwenn St., robbery, pursesnatch
*May 25: 1800 block of Sunnydale Ave., bicycle theft.
*May 25: 500 block of Leland Ave., trespassers
*May 25: 200 block of Santos St., broken windows.
*May 25: 2100 block of Geneva Ave., assault.
*May 25: 1776 Sunnydale Ave., found 1992 Toyota.
*May 25: Hahn St. & Sunnydale Ave., domestic violence
*May27-30: 100 block of Brookdale Ave., burglary, gate, food and TV
*May 28: 2:30 a.m., first block of Carrizal Ave., robbery, suspect with gun.
*May 28: 5 p.m., McLaren Park, dog bite, pit bulls attacking other dogs, dogs were found and remanded to Animal Care and Control.
*May 28: Mansell St. & Visitacion Ave., found 1996 Chevrolet.
*May 28: 600 block of Velasco Ave., malicious mischief.
*May 28: 40 Mill St., found 1990 Acura
*May 28: 359 Campbell Ave., found 1989 Toyota.
*May 30: 2:48 p.m., Schwerin St. & Visitacion Ave., sexual battery, robbery with knife.
*May 31: 7 pm., first block of Garrison Ave., breaking up congregation of gang members.
*May 31: 200 block of Arleta Ave., theft.
*May 31: 700 block of Velasco Ave., vandalism to vehicle.
*May 31: San Bruno & Harkness Aves., vandalism to vehicle
*May 31: 3700 block of San Bruno Ave., found person.
*May 31: 266 Peabody St., found 1998 Dodge
*May 31: first block of Tucker Ave., missing juvenile
*June 1: 3 p.m., McLaren Park, fire report, grass fire.
*June 1: 300 block of Harkness Ave., theft from vehicle.
*June 1: 85 Brookdale Ave., found 1984 Oldsmobile.
*June 2: 8:14 p.m., 100 block of Garrison Ave., felony assault, juveniles shooting BB gun at dogs and people.
*June 2: 1892 Sunnydale Ave., found 2001 Honda.
*June 2: 117 Brookdale Ave., stolen 1988 Honda.
*June 2: 453 Raymond Ave. stolen.1991 Toyota.
*June 2: 318 Wilde Ave. stolen 1987 Toyota.
*June 2: 100 block of Brookdale Ave., mental detention.
*June 2: 445 Sawyer St., stolen license plate.
*June 2: Teddy Ave. & Alpha St., found 1991 Nissan.
*June 2: 54 Mill St., stolen 1994 Chrysler
*June 5: 1 a.m., 1800 block of Sunnydale Ave., burglary, door, appliances.
*June 5: Muni bus on Visitacion Ave., harasser.
*June 5: 200 block of Schwenn St., threats
*June 5: 1100 Mansell St., arson of vehicle.
*June 5: 1900 block of Sunnydale Ave., domestic violence
*June 5: 236 Santos St., stolen 1991 Toyota.
*June 5: San Bruno Ave. & Girard St., stolen 1986 Toyota
*June 5: 1892 Sunnydale Ave., found 1988 Ford
*June 5: 598 Raymond Ave., found 2000 Ford
*June 5: 338 Silliman St., stolen 1992 Nissan
*June 5: 315 Sawyer St., found 1987 Toyota.
*June 5: Bayshore Blvd. & Leland Ave., theft from vehicle.
*June 5: 500 Campbell Ave., stolen 1986 Toyota
*June 5: Cora St. & Sunnydale Ave., found 1987 Toyota.
*June 5: 100 block of Garrison Ave., mental detention.
*June 6: 300 block of Sawyer St., fraud.
*June 6: 700 block of Delta St., battery, threats
*June 6: 600 block of Velasco Ave., pellet shot.
*June 6: 100 block of Leland Ave., mental detention
*June 6-7: 11 p.m.-4:50 p.m., 100 block of Blythdale Ave., burglary, household items, suspect known.
*June 7: 200 block of Leland Ave., vandalism
*June 8: 1800 block of Sunnydale Ave., juvenile left at home.
*June 8: Brookdale Ave. & Santos St., malicious mischief.
*June 8: 200 block of Sawyer St., mental detention
*June 8: 740 Visitacion Ave., stolen 1987 Toyota.
*June 9: 10:13 p.m., 200 block of Rey St., ten shots at window
*June 9: 45 Delta St., found 1999 Dodge.
*June 11: 6 p.m., Sunnydale Ave. & Bayshore Blvd., stolen vehicle evades police.
*June 12: 2 a.m., 100 block of Cora St., stayaway violation.
*June 12: 1800 block of Sunnydale Ave., broken windows
*June 12: 300 block of Campbell Ave., found person.
*June 12: Teddy & Elliot Sts., found 1982 Toyota
*June 12: 100 block of Kelloch Ave., runaway juvenile.
*June 12: 100 block of Raymond Ave., mental detention.
*June 12: First block of Blythdale Ave., gun magazine.
*June 12: 200 block of Arleta Ave., death, 56-year-old man.
*June 13: 1-5:30 p.m., 100 block of Cora St., attempted arson, mail slot.
*June 13: 579 Raymond Ave., found 1991 Toyota.
*June 13: 1099 Sunnydale Ave., found 1988 Buick.
*June 14: 7:30 p.m., 2200 Bayshore Blvd., robbery, store, black handgun
*June 14: 1500 block of Visitacion Ave., bullet hole in car.
*June 14: 300 block of Arleta Ave., mental detention.
*June 15: First block of Teddy Ave., found 1992 Ford.
*June 15: 1200 block of Girard St., mental detention.
*June 15: 200 block of Rey St., missing juvenile.
*June 15: 100 block of Garrison Ave., threats.
*June 17: 1605 Sunnnydale Ave., found 1991 Ford.
*June 17: first block of Santos St., broken windows.
*June 17: 576 Raymond Ave., found 1997 Honda.
*June 18: Sunnydale Ave. & Santos St., assault with knife, stabbed in arm after dispute.
*June 18: first block of Blythdale Ave., broken windows.
*June 18: 200 block of Argonaut Ave., missing adult.

San Francisco's Restaurant Industry Faces Perilous Future

In a city long heralded for its vibrant and innovative cuisine, restaurants are closing at a dramatic pace and those that remain are just hanging on, according to an exhaustive new study of the industry that cites last year's 26 percent increase in San Francisco's minimum wage and a slew of other new and increased local fees, taxes and regulations as primary culprits.

The 164-page study, authored by veteran economist Kent Sims for the Golden Gate Restaurant Association (GGRA), concludes that the City's restaurants are in serious trouble and that unless local policy makers act quickly to halt their slide San Francisco's internationally renowned restaurant industry could suffer irreparable damage. This is the third year the GGRA has published the study, titled "Economics of the San Francisco Restaurant Industry 2005."

"The economic numbers and the responses of restaurant owners tell the story of a beleaguered industry," said Sims, a former San Francisco economic development director and senior economist for the Federal Reserve Bank. "The study also tells the story of how restaurants are being shut out of San Francisco's modest economic recovery and how that could ultimately hurt City coffers and other key local industries, including tourism."

Among the study's notable findings:

*Despite serving more customers and registering higher sales, skyrocketing costs — particularly related to labor — are squeezing restaurants financially.

*Restaurants are hiring less and eliminating jobs.

*Menu prices are going up and table service is being reduced.

*Owners have less capital to invest in their businesses and employees.

"The study's findings offer a bleak picture of an industry that traditionally has operated not only as a key contributor to San Francisco's economy and cultural fabric but as a proud and world-renowned center of culinary innovation, expertise and accomplishment," said Kevin Westlye, executive director of the GGRA.

The study notes that restaurant closures were up dramatically in the first three months of 2005, with a net decline of 97.

A chief culprit cited in the study was the imposition by the City last year of a minimum wage ordinance that far exceeded federal levels. The 26 percent hike in the minimum wage that the Board of Supervisors approved created what author Sims called a "seismic shift" in prime restaurant operating costs, more than 60 percent of which are related to employees — this in an industry that already operates on thin margins.

San Francisco's failure to include tip income as part of wages also puts restaurants at a serious financial disadvantage in terms of complying with the City's minimum wage ordinance. And because tips are not credited as part of wages, the ordinance benefits the highest income restaurant employees.

The study, which relied on local and national economic data and a survey of local restaurant owners, also cites increases to a host of other local fees, taxes and service-related charges for sapping the industry of the vital capital it needs to survive.

"By now, few San Franciscans are surprised that, when the City is short of cash, its first impulse is to raise business taxes and fees," the study observed. "The City could do that much more responsibly if it established a mechanism for tracking the cumulative effects of its revenue decisions on local businesses, like restaurants.

"Failure to consider the cumulative effects of its decisions after the onset of the recession created many of the problems facing restaurants in San Francisco today. Those problems will not subside without some action, and they will most likely have broader and longer term consequences to the local restaurant industry and related industries, including tourism," the study said. San Francisco's restaurants are one of the chief reasons tourists from around the world visit the city. Among the long-term impacts: continued job losses; less table service; fewer locally owned restaurants; an increase in corporate and franchised restaurants; and reduced city revenue.

"It's hard to imagine that San Francisco isn't doing more to ensure the viability of an industry whose roots in the City are as deep and long as any local icon," said David Gingrass, owner of Hawthorne Lane.

To reverse the trends identified in the report and ensure San Francisco's restaurant industry will flourish, Westlye outlined five recommendations from the Golden Gate Restaurant Association:

*The city must avoid creating any news fees and taxes that further burden restaurants.

*The city must similarly avoid imposing new and unjustified increases to existing fees and taxes.

*San Francisco must push for state legislation that allows restaurants to credit tips as part of wages in determining their compliance with the city's minimum wage law.

*San Francisco must immediately undertake to bring greater accountability and discipline to its entire fee system.

*San Francisco must take substantive action to curb city spending, which is a chief driver for increasing fees, taxes and other charges.

"The City must act now to save its restaurants, to save jobs and to save an industry that is integral to San Francisco's economic success and in making San Francisco a premier international tourist destination and capital of culinary excellence," Westlye said.

VISITACION VALLEY BUSINESS DIRECTORY

Valley free listings in the 415 area code. Call the Grapevine at (415) 467-9300.

ANTIQUES
J.M CHINESE ANTIQUES, 144 Leland Ave., 586-1038
AUTOMOTIVE
BAYSHORE AUTO, 2260 Bayshore Blvd., 467-6130
BAYSHORE SERVICE, 2596 Bayshore Blvd., 239-5239
BROTHER'S AUTO BODY, 2520 Bayshore Blvd
CHARLIE'S GARAGE, 2550 Bayshore Blvd., 239-7450
TW AUTOMOTIVE, 2500 Bayshore Blvd., 585-8281
BANK
BANK OF AMERICA, 6 Leland Ave., 622-4501
BAKERS
LITTLE QUIAPO BAKE SHOP, 169 Leland Ave., 239-2253
BARBERS
DeMASI'S BARBER SHOP, 35 Leland Ave.
THE SHOP (JB), 178 Leland Ave., 239-6709
BEAUTICIANS
BODY, SOUL & SPIRIT, 222 Leland Ave., 333-7261
MAYMAY BEAUTY SALON, 60 Leland Ave., 337-9381
MIZ RENAS SALON, 19 Blanken Ave., 467-3399
NAILS BY JENNY, 50 Leland Ave., 333-6800
WHO'S BADD, 224 Leland Ave., 657-3156
BLIND CLEANING
SPEEDY ULTRASONIC BLIND CLEANING (commercial and residential), 1116 Girard St., 467-7506
BOARDING HOUSE
ABLE'S CASA, 850 Rutland St., 333-4664, fax 333-4693
BOOKKEEPERS
AMY ARAGON, PROFESSIONAL BOOKKEEPER, 467-8927
VERNA WALLACE E.A., 2320 Bayshore Blvd., 239-5333
CARPETS
HANSAN INTERIORS, 41 Leland Ave., 333-6382
CASKETS
CASKETORIUM, INC., 93 Leland Ave., 585-3451
CHURCHES
CHURCH OF THE VISITACION, 655 Sunnydale Ave., 239-5950
IGLESIA EL ESPIRITU SANTO, 38 Leland Ave.
KOREAN FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, 333 Tunnel Ave., 468-1213
RIDGE VIEW UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, 590 Leland Ave., 239-5457
ST JAMES PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, 240 Leland Ave., 586-6381
VALLEY BAPTIST CHURCH, 305 Raymond Ave., 467-6055
VISITACION CHINESE BAPTIST CHURCH, 8 Desmond St., 333-4503
COFFEE
CANDLESTICK COFFEE, 2155 Bayshore Blvd., 467-2442
HAPPY DONUT, 2600 Bayshore Blvd., 469-5309
DAY CARE
CAROUSEL DAY CARE, 261 Hahn St., 469-5353
DENTIST
VISITACION VALLEY DENTAL OFFICE (Albert Kuan, DDS), 37 Leland Ave., 239-5500
DEVELOPERS
VISITACION VALLEY COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION, 1099 Sunnydale Ave., 587-7895
ELECTRICAL
TATE ELECTRIC (Joel Tate), 467-4657
FLORISTS
IL FIORE FLOWERS, 2466 San Bruno Ave. 468-0145
GARDEN ORNAMENTS
SILVESTRI GARDEN ORNAMENTS, 2635 Bayshore Blvd., 239-5990
GROCERS
CASA LOPEZ PRODUCE, 58 Leland Ave., 586-4745
E-Z STOP MARKET, 2203 Geneva Ave., 585-9240
FIVE MILE MARKET, 3574 San Bruno Ave., 467-7300
K C MARKET, 400 Wilde St., 467-3024
LA LOMA PRODUCE #2, 65 Leland Ave., 239-7520
LITTLE VILLAGE MARKET, 1450 Sunnydale Ave., 586-1815
M & M SHORTSTOP, 2145 Geneva Ave., 585-0878
PICCOLO PETE, 2155 Bayshore Blvd., 468-6800
7-11, 2200 Bayshore Blvd., 468-8646
SHUN LEE MARKET, 2400 Bayshore Blvd., 586-4851
SMITTY'S MARKET, 2610 Bayshore Blvd., 239-5506
SUPER FAIR MARKET, 201 Leland Ave., 239-6856
TEDDY'S MARKET, 298 Teddy Ave.
HERBS
SAN ON HERBS, 33-A Leland Ave. 333-7469
HYPNOTHERAPY
VALERIE HABEGGER-HYPNOTHERAPY, 371 Teddy Ave., 468-5631
INSURANCE
EDIE EPPS (A.H.E. INSURANCE), 467-0236, Fax 467-0276
ROBERT LEHMAN, CLTC, CMFC, 333-0850
KITCHEN CABINETS
LEE CHANG INTERNATIONAL, INC., 25 Leland Ave., 333-2730
LAUNDRY/CLEANERS
BAY WASH, 44 Leland Ave.
CITY WASH INTERNATIONAL, 83 Leland Ave., 333-9467
COIN WASH & DRY LAUNDRY, 186 Leland Ave.
FORTY-NINER CLEANERS, 51 Leland Ave., 239-6418
LELAND AVENUE CLEANERS, 151 Leland Ave., 586-1412
VALLEY LAUNDRY, 90 Leland Ave.
VISITACION VALLEY LAUNDRY, 108 Leland Ave., 239-9030
LEARNING
3-N-1 LEARNING ACADEMY, 240 Leland Ave., 584-8555
VISITACION VALLEY COMMUNITY BEACON CENTER, 450 Raymond Ave., 452-4907
VISITACION VALLEY FAMILY SCHOOL, 325 Leland Ave., 585-9320
LIBRARY
VISITACION VALLEY BRANCH, 45 Leland Ave., 239-5270
MANUFACTURER
NATIONWIDE PAPER, 345 Schwerin St., 586-9160
MEDICAL
AMERICAN RED CROSS, BAY AREA CHAPTER, 1704 Sunnydale Ave., 584-3620
HAWKINS VILLAGE MEDICAL CLINIC (Dept. of Public Health), 1099 Sunnydale Ave. Appointments: 715-0310
DR. SAM HO, MD, 9 Silliman St. No. 4, 337-6135
NORTHEAST MEDICAL SERVICES, LELAND AVENUE, 82 Leland Ave., 391-9686 (ask for Leland Avenue clinic)
PORTOLA FOOT & ANKLE CLINIC (Dr. Divyang Patel) 2858 San Bruno Ave. 467-7500
NOTARY
ROYAL PACIFIC MORTGAGE, 46 Leland Ave., 333-4900
ORGANIZATIONS
ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICAN COMMUNITY CENTER, 2442 Bayshore Blvd., 587-2689
GENEVA TERRACE PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATION, 60 Burr Ave., 584-2700
GIRLS AFTER SCHOOL ACADEMY, 2050 Sunnydale Ave., 333 Schwerin St., 584-4044
JOHN KING SENIOR COMMUNITY, 500 Raymond Ave., 239-6233
LELAND HOUSE, 141 Leland Ave., 405-2000
ROCK (Real Options for City Kids), 590 Leland Ave., 333-4001
VISITACION VALLEY SENIOR CENTER, 66 Raymond Ave., 467-4499
PHARMACY
VISITACION VALLEY PHARMACY, 100 Leland Ave., 239-5811
PHOTOGRAPHER
WALTER CORBIN PHOTOGRAPHY (freelance), 435 Sawyer St., 587-9471, fax 337-8620
PLUMBING
MARK VOELKER PLUMBING, 99 Arleta Ave., 467-7401
POST OFFICE
VISITACION USPO, 68 Leland Ave., (800) 275-8777
REAL ESTATE
JUSTYNA P. TO (Century 21), 2488 Junipero Serra Blvd., Daly City 94015, (650) 991-5215, Mobile (415) 830-1235
CATHY KLINE SAUNDERS (Zephyr Real Estate), 215 West Portal Ave. 731-5011 ex. 163
RESTAURANTS
BAYSIDE CAFE, 2011 Bayshore Blvd., 467-2023
CLIFF'S BAR-B-Q & SEAFOOD, 2177 Bayshore Blvd. 330-0736, Fax 330-9813
G & L BAKERY & RESTAURANT, 198 Leland Ave., 239-6283
HERNANDEZ TAQUERIA & BAKERY, 98 Leland Ave., 587-7721
LUAN FAT BAKERY, 110 Leland Ave., 585-1167
PHO Y & G RESTAURANT, 73 Leland Ave., 469-5686
TWO JACK'S, 167 Leland Ave., 337-0433
SCULPTOR
CARTORIGINALS (Mikal Cartor), 2 Hahn St., 239-4138
SELF-DEVELOPMENT
DYNAMIC DEVELOPMENTS (Marjorie Ann Williams, CEO, Career and Self-Enhancements Specialist) 467-7608
SERVICE PROVIDERS
THE VILLAGE, 1099 Sunnydale Ave., 239-5045
VISITACION VALLEY BILINGUAL EDUCATION, SUPPORTIVE SERVICES & TRAINING (VVBESST), 120 Leland Ave.
VISITACION VALLEY COMMUNITY CENTER (VVCC), 50 Raymond Ave., 467-6400
VVCC FAMILY & COMMUNITY SERVICES CENTER, 161 Leland Ave., 586-6998, Fax 586-8027
VISITACION VALLEY JOBS, EDUCATION AND TRAINING (VVJET), 1099 Sunnydale Ave., 239-2866
TAVERN
THE CLUB HOUSE, 25 Blanken Ave.
TELEPHONE
D & A WIRELESS, 78 Leland Ave., 452-4139
VARIETY
GOLDEN 99 CENTS ZONE, 5-7 Leland Ave., 333-3923

Major Increase in City's Police Staffing

Mayor Gavin Newsom announced June 22 that by June of 2006, as a result of the proposed budget, the City will see an increase of 196 police officers.

"We are committed to ensuring safe neighborhoods for our children and families." explained Mayor Newsom who said an additional $2.6 million would be invested to hire 170 new recruits.

"And by being creative, we have found ways to fund additional hiring to increase staffing."

By employing civilians, the city would save money by paying civilian salaries as opposed to police salaries, which tend to be much higher.

The police department would also benefit from employees who are skilled professionals in administrative roles.

With 68 positions slated for retirement, an additional 72 civilians will be hired to take over administrative positions previously held by police officers.

Proposition D requires that the city's police department maintain a full-time staff level of 1,971 officers.

To assist the city with its goal of reaching the Prop D mandate and provide further cost savings to the City, Proposition C, a Charter Amendment passed in 2004, allows the civilianization of administrative and support positions currently held by full-duty officers to count towards the minimum staffing level.

The police department is currently training an academy class of 45 recruits, and is expected to train three more academy classes by June 2006 to reach a total of 170 recruits. Funding will come from a combination of general funding and federal grant money.

New Way to Change Address at Post Office

WASHINGTON, D.C. - Moving will never be easy but the Postal Service has now made it more convenient by offering the 45 million Americans who move annually three methods of forwarding their mail.

In addition to submitting a hardcopy form at the Post Office, or submitting a change through our website, usps.com, consumers now have the added convenience of changing their address by telephone at 1-800-ASK-USPS (1-800-275-8777).

To file a change of address by telephone, consumers can simply dial 1-800-ASK-USPS (1-800-275-8777) and select the change-of-address option.

Part of the process uses interactive voice response (IVR) and only takes minutes. There is always the option to speak with a customer service agent regarding questions or concerns.

Like Internet change of address, customers will need to have a valid credit card for identity verification and security. A nominal fee is charged.

More than six million Americans have changed their address online at www.usps.com.

In a recent survey, more than 80 percent of respondents said they would definitely use the online change of address service for their next move.

Crossword Puzzle Solution

L	O	G	■	W	A	A	C	■	A	P	O	D
A	B	A	■	H	E	M	A	■	N	E	R	A
I	I	I	■	I	T	E	A	■	K	N	O	B
C	A	T	A	N	■	■	M	A	L	E	■	■
■	■	■	F	E	I	E	■	B	E	L	L	E
M	O	H	R	■	U	R	A	L	■	O	E	C
A	L	I	■	T	R	A	C	E	■	P	A	H
H	O	T	■	A	N	S	I	■	P	E	D	O
A	R	H	A	T	■	E	D	E	L	■	■	■
■	■	E	C	U	A	■	■	L	Y	D	I	A
B	A	R	E	■	M	A	D	E	■	A	R	N
A	S	I	R	■	O	D	I	N	■	R	A	G
S	N	O	B	■	N	A	G	A	■	T	E	L

Family & Community Services Center

Visitacion Valley Community Center, Inc.

Cantonese Kinship Support Group
Wednesday, July 13, 20 and 27
10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at 161 Leland Ave.
Lunch, childcare and incentive provided.

"We will provide social support, learning and understanding about kin parenting, the importance of health such as mental, physical, legal rights and community resources. Experience outdoor activities (field trip) and response to their needs."

***Parents Advisory Meeting, Friday, July 1**
5:30 to 7:30 p.m. at 161 Leland Ave.
***Parent's Support Group, Friday, July 1**
6:30 to 7:30 p.m. at 161 Leland Ave.
Dinner and childcare will be provided!
***Fathers' Support Group, Thursday, July 14**
1 to 2 p.m. at 161 Leland Ave.
Light refreshment will be provided!
***Parent Education Workshop, Speaker: Irene Chan**
Setting Limit with Love and Managing Difficult Behaviors
Friday, July 15 5:30 to 7 p.m. at 161 Leland Ave.
Dinner and childcare will be provided!
***Filipino Safety Women's Support Group**
Monday, July 11 and 18. 5:30 to 7 p.m. at 161 Leland Ave.
Dinner and childcare will be provided!
***Parenting Education Classes, 5 to 7 p.m.**
Every Monday at 50 Raymond Ave. (Ceramic Room)
***Domestic Violence Men's Class, 6 to 8 p.m.**
Every Tuesday and Thursday at 50 Raymond Ave.
***Domestic Violence Women's Class, 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.**
Every Wednesday at 50 Raymond Ave. (Ceramic Room)
***Free Food Distribution, Monday, July 11, 18 and 25**
3 to 4 p.m. at 161 Leland Ave.

For more information, contact the staff of Family and Community Services Center:
Meriam T. Abalos, FCSC Director
Marichelle Punzalan, Assistant Coordinator
Steven Wong, Admin. Assistant
Tammie Lawrence, Outreach Worker
Joyce Boone, Family Counselor

Monday and Friday: 9 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday: 9 a.m. - 7 p.m.
Saturday: 9 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.
Email: meriam_vvcc@sbcglobal.net

161 Leland Avenue **(415) 586-6998 Fax 586-8027**

Cathy Kline Saunders
Broker Associate

ZEPHYR
REAL ESTATE

As you know, I have been the most successful realtor in Visitacion Valley for more than 20 years. I was born and raised in the Valley, and have successfully been representing buyers and sellers for years. I am also actively involved in neighborhood charities and community events.

You know me! You can trust me!
I will help you prepare your home
so that you get top dollar.
For all your real estate needs,
I am *still* the person to call.

I look forward to working with you.

Call Cathy at (415) 731-5000 Extension 163

215 West Portal Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94127